

横塚司
yokotsuka tsukasa

illustration マニヤ子
manyako



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中等部1年

たかみやま かわ
田上宮 觀阿

「いまのは、落ち込んだ男の子を
慰めるためのキス」

「わたしのこと、慰めてくれたでしょ。
だったら今度は、わたしたちの番よ」

下園 亜理栖

中等部3年

「……慰めるわよ」

中等部3年

りょう しゆじゅ き
竜輝珠樹



高等部1年

志木縁子
し よ ゆかりこ

高等部1年

賀谷和久
かや かずひさ

「オーケにレイプされることを思えば、
仲間の命を使い捨てるくらい、
たいしたことない」



「はい」

「仇を取ろう、アリス」

「カズさん、見ていてね。
今度こそ、わたし、
役に立つてみせるから」



「わたしは悪でいいわ。
あなたたちの穢れはすべて、
わたしが引き受けでみせる」

Chapter 26 – Search in The Girls' Dormitory

Arisu used Healing Magic on the girls who luckily survived from the orcs' attack.

First is «Heal», then its «Cure Mind». The eyes of the girls which only held despair initially, gradually regain its life. Casting these magic costed a lot of MP, but this is also something that can't be helped.

「Tamaki, Mia!」

Seeing Tamaki and Mia standing blankly on the spot, I patted their shoulders. At these timings, it is better to give them things to do, no matter what it is.

「We should take the time to investigate the surroundings now.」

There shouldn't be any more elite orcs appearing, and the orcs here should have all been defeated by us. But even if so, we should not let our guard down.

I left this area to Arisu, and brought Tamaki and Mia to investigate the first floor with the wolf. The corridor is silent, and we looked into each room one by one.

A few doors are locked, but there is no need for courtesy. We used Tamaki's axe to break the door and entered to investigate.

「Ah—— right, where are the 2 of your rooms?」

「Arisu and my room are over there, just beside each other.」

「Hmm, my room is on the 3rd floor.」

After I thought about it, I instructed Tamaki to return to her room to change.

「Tamaki, help pack some stuff for changing for Arisu. Then search the other room, and find clothes that the girls in the cafeteria can wear.」

「Understood, we can't let Arisu stay there alone for too long, leave it to me.」

「Mia, you will follow me, let's go to Level 3.」

As long as the familiar wolf is around, there should not be a problem with the guard. Even if a surviving orc is hiding above, the sharp nose of the wolf will detect their presence——this is what I had thought about.

The narrow corridor can't let 2 orcs walk side by side, as long as we can delay them for a while, then there is time to summon another wolf. And we can have Mia to use magic to support me.

And after summoning magic is raised to Rank 3, I learnt a new skill «Cure Familiar», which can fully cure the grey wolf's wounds. Rank 3 summons will exhaust the greatest MP value by 9 points, hence as compared to re-summoning, curing familiars and re-using them maybe more efficient.

After splitting ways with Tamaki, Mia and I walked up the stairs. Luckily the enemies seem to have all rush out, there is no signs of orcs inside.

Level 2 and 3 are filled with sounds of buzzing of flies, painful to ears. They probably found corpse, that's why they gathered. We walked Mia's room which is on level 3 first, and let her change.

「Do you want to peek on me while I am changing?」

「No.」

I waited with wolf outside the room, I squatted , and the familiar wolf sat beside me like the loyal dog Hachiko. Whoo whoo, it seems to be a smart kid, I caressed the grey fur on the wolf, and it closed its eyes in comfort. Oh man, this fellow is really cute.

「Do you want the stained panties?」

Mia's voice came from inside the room.

「No, throw it away, you should have many clothes for replacement in there.」

Mia stopped for a moment.

「hmm, that's right, I will choose something suitable from my roommate's wardrobe.」

I said it wrongly. To my carelessness, I could only groan in frustration. That sentence is as though saying that all her friends are dead. I pressed on my mouth, covering my groan.

「I don't mind.」

Perhaps because of my breath, or perhaps of other reason, Mia discovered my movement. She suddenly open the door, and pushed her head out.

「Actually I am clear that my friends, classmate, and teachers are most probably dead, only I am luckily enough to survive.」

「That is not certain.」

「It is better to have mental preparation. It's fine, I have already finished crying last night.」

Mia patted me, on my shoulder, who is squatting down, thinking of letting me be at ease.

「Last night, Shiki-senpai said to do so, and everyone cried together in the girls' room.」

「Shiki-san huh.....」

Mia responded with 「Hmm」, and nodded.

「She said if we want to cry, we should do it now. So if Kazu-chi has yet to cry, then I can lend you my chest.」

As Mia said, she puffed her flat chest.

「Although it is not big enough to give people comfort, but I can still lend it to you.」

「Self-sarcasm is your forte?」

「Be careful that I will let you eat stained panties.」

That is a reward to people with certain hobbies, but I do not feel happy about that.

And I do not a roommate that I am close enough to mourn his death, and I even hope that all the people will die. Ah——but.....

Revealing everything about myself now will make me lose face, so why not just say something to tide over. That's right, hmm.

「If I want to cry, I will cry on Arisu's bosom.」

「It is indeed better to have huge boobs right.....」

At least change that 「huge boobs」 to 「lover」.

Before Mia finished changing and organising simple luggages, I left to check the rooftop. I do not wish to let Mia see that tragedy there.

The 6 corpses on the rooftop is surrounded by large amount of crows and flies. After confirming that there are no orcs, I returned to level 3, and shut the door to the rooftop.

This moment, Mia also carried her luggage and walked out from her room.

「Let's go, Kazu-chi.」

There is no sign of sadness in her expression. Although her eyes are a bit swollen, but due to the dim in the corridor, so I could not see properly. Perhaps she cried again just now.

But just as she said, we should cry while we can, perhaps that is also a good thing. At least in our current situation, I thought so.

「Then again, Mia, why did you deliberately change to bloomers?」

Mia is dressed the same way when she is digging a hole as she left her room—— PE shirt and bloomers.

「This is brought over from the Cultivating Centre, everyone had a part in it.」

「Sorry, I do not know where to start retorting.」

We followed the sequence and checked the rooms on level 3, and found 2 bodies in a certain room. Mia looked at the bodies quietly, and mumbled:「Sorry, I will return again.」

「You know them?」

「They are my classmates.」

Mia's expression did not change, but her hand that is holding the luggage is trembling.

I did not ask her relationship with the 2 person..... No, I could not ask.

As responsibility, we search all the rooms on level 3 once.

According to Mia, the girls who are staying on level 3 are all Year 1 students from the middle school section. She also expressed that other than her own class, she did not interact much with the other students. Hence it is better for me to just search by myself? But Mia is a person who stay in this dorm, so perhaps there are only some stuff that she will know.

「Next is level 2. Level 2 is the rooms for Year 2s, I do not know people from Year 2.」

Oh—— I nodded. After ending the search on level 2 and 3, we return the cafeteria, without being attacked by any orcs.

Tamaki had already changed her clothes and returned. Her top half is PE shirt, and her bottom is the same bloomers.

「Why even Tamaki is also wearing bloomers.....」

「I gave it to her just now.」

Mia whispered. Oi, you.

Tamaki is crying while sitting down, it seems that she discovered a few familiar faces in the corpse pile, while Arisu



is silently continuing to treat the survivors.

「Sorry, sorry, Arisu. Just awhile more, let me cry a bit more.」

Tamaki used PE shirt that she had just changed into to wipe her ever flowing tears.

Arisu remained silent, without an expression, as though she is wearing a mask, continue to cast «Heal» and «Cure Mind». I brought over blankets from the nearby rooms to cover the bodies of the girls who have been treated, they remained powerless. If only we could have done this earlier.

The girls who survived after receiving Arisu's treatment amounted to 10. Their bodily wounds are healed with magic, their mental shock are reduced due to the effect of magic. Even so, no one could stand up immediately. Although magic can heal the wounds, but it can't replenish their strength.

Forget it, after all we predict that it will become like this. I gave instructions to Tamaki who have recovered and Mia who was holding luggages with both her hands at the cafeteria entrance:

「The 2 of you hurry back to the Cultivating Centre, and bring 5 people here.」

「I know. But, let me go by myself. I will return immediately,

Mia will stay here.」

It's too dangerous for a person—— before I could say it, Tamaki rushed out, without even bringing her giant axe weapon.

Ah ah, that fellow is really! I could not do anything, but order the familiar wolf to go and protect Tamaki. I order it to wait near Tamaki, and if orcs appear, engage them.

My smart and adorable pet woofed as an expression of understanding the order, and chased after Tamaki.

「We will bury the bodies some other day. According to this situation, the buildings are likely to have other survivors, I wish to save them as fast as possible.」

「Yes..... You are right.」

The moment when she stood up, Arisu's legs suddenly gave way.

I ran up to support her quickly.

「Sorry.」

「Thanks to you, these 10 people could survive, you should be proud.」

「But..... my friends, a few of them already.....」

This huh—— I nodded. Hmm that's right, such stuff are bound to happen.

Since that is so, even if you behave a bit more sorrowful, it is fine. Express all your feeling—— I wish to say that.....

But Arisu is very clear, no matter how sad she is, the dead will not return. The correct choice is to save as much survivors as possible, that is probably what she believes in.

But I don't feel that it is good to just purely increase the number of survivors. The Cultivating Centre is our gathering point, if the number of people defending there does not increase to a certain number, the future activities like this will be in trouble. But once the number increased too much, it will result in a fight between groups.

At the same time, I also feel that we should destroy the gathering points of the orcs, eliminating the enemies. What if the surviving orcs all attack the Cultivating Centre together, we will not be able to defend it. Before things develop to that, we have to think of methods to solve it.

Well it is just thinking, no matter what, I do not have much MP left.

Arisu's MP should be almost finished due to the healing. Arisu is still fine, but my MP is linked to my combat ability. I wish to bring them back first and rest.

Mia looked around the rooms in level one, and gathered clothes for changing in a few plastics bag back in a trained manner.

「Sorry for troubling you.」

「No, it is better for me to do something to calm myself.」

Mia finished her words, and pass the clothes to Arisu. Indeed it is PE shirt and bloomers, I am already too tired to retort.....

「Mia, sorry, can I trouble you to go to the kitchen and find stuff like choppers.」

「Okay——」

Mia ran out of the cafeteria as though she is escaping.

Even though her steps are not steady, Arisu still returned to her room and changed into her PE shirt and bloomers.

After 20 mins, Tamaki returned. She followed my instructions, and brought 5 people over.

Shiki-san is also among them. Other than her, other 4 middle school section girls also witness the tragic scene, and stopped their breath, and then cried. Shiki-san slapped those girls' cheeks.

「I know that you all are in pain, but protecting the survivors are the most important thing now. We do not know when the Cultivating Centre will be attacked, hence we cannot leave it too long.」

Shiki-san scolded those blur girls that came from the Cultivating Centre to help, and I cast 《Mighty Arm》on them, to let them use their shoulders to support the girls. After all even though the victims underwent treatment, they are still powerless, causing them to weigh very heavily.

Luckily among 4 of the girls that were rescued, expressed that they can walk on their own, and stood up shakily. They supported each other's shoulders and walked.

「Although I am still not clear on the situation——」

Among the survivors, one of the girl with ponytail said. She used a cloth to wipe her hair that was stained with orc fluids, because of the sticky feeling, she frowned and looked at me.

「But there is no time, right. Since so, we will do our best to not become your burden.」

I only said 「don't force yourself」, and chose to respect their will. Although we should at least let them wash with water, but as I expected, the tap water in the girls' dormitory cannot be used. Probably because of the earthquake, causing the water pipe to have problems somewhere.

「Then, Gaya-san, let's go.」

Shiki-san supported a girl each on both her shoulders respectively, and because it seems tough, I suggested to help, but I was rejected with a 「You can't」 as the reason.

「Your responsibility is to protect us during attacks when we are on the way back, isn't it?」

「Ah, that's right.」

I felt that the initiative has been taken away. But her orders are very well-thought, nothing to complain about.

We retreated from the girls' dormitory quickly and returned to the Cultivating Centre.

Just as we are about to reach the Cultivating Centre, the wolf familiar's ears suddenly stood up.

Shiki-san carried the girl that we rescued, and walked slightly

forward. At the same time, she stopped and turned back. I remember Shiki-san got the Detection Skill, in other words——

「Gaya-san, there is sounds of battling from the front.」

Shiki-san expressed in an urgent voice.

「The Cultivating Centre has been attacked by the orcs.」

Chapter 27 – Defense Battle at the Cultivating Centre

Because there are 9 people gone among the 11 people, so currently the Cultivating Centre only has 2 people guarding it. Under the situation of limited combat power, how much time can they buy under the orcs' attack?

Before leaving the Cultivating Centre, I had instructed everyone to dig hole around the surrounding in front of the main door. Due to the moat-like holes, the enemy's invasion path is restricted.

Even so, there is no time for us to hesitate.

「Arisu, Tamaki, Mia, follow me. The rest of the people will be commanded by Shiki-san.」

The moment I finished, I cast『Physical Up』on my party members, and head towards the Cultivating Centre ignoring Shiki-san's protest, now we cannot even waste a second.

Initially I was quite rejected on giving command to Shiki-san, but now I was quite decisive, ignoring the knots in my heart. That sort of boring thing can wait until the battle ends.

My familiar wolf and I were at the foremost, and the sounds of footsteps from behind is enough to know that Arisu and them have caught up.

I let the wolf head over first, not forgetting to instruct it—— to help the girls who are protecting the Cultivating Centre when they are in danger.

The familiar wolf increased its speed, and its grey shadow immediately disappeared into the forest.

Even though I sent out my familiar, I did not stop running. Not long, I began to hear sounds of swords clashing.

I remembered that the skills of 2 person protecting the Cultivating Centre are Spear Skill 1／Support Magic 1 and Spear Skill 1／Fire Magic 1 respectively. The reason why they chose Spear Skill is because of my recommendation to use weapons with long reach.

I had read a piece of news before, the content is regarding a competition between a girl with a knife and a guy with a sword.

In the martial arts side, the difference in the strength of the male and female is apparent. But girl who was a champion with the knife, is able to fight to a draw with the guy who is a kendo champion, that is how the new report said.

From this, it can be seen that the attack range of the weapons is very crucial.

Arisu had used the attacking range of the spear skillfully yesterday, and made herself one step before the orcs, attaining the edge in the battles.

So even if both of them are level 1, as long as they support each other carefully, they can still handle 2 or 3 orcs..... That is what I had hoped.

After passing through the forest, my vision widened.

20 orcs and above are gathered around the surroundings of the Cultivating Centre.

As there is a big hole in front of the main entrance, hence the orcs split into 2 teams, approaching the main entrance of the Cultivating Centre from the left and right side.

The 2 girls stood at the entrance of the main door, and fought back to back desperately to prevent the orcs from invading.

Luckily the orcs did not have anyone holding a spear. The weapons' attack range is effective, and they managed to prevent the enemies from getting near.

But even that is reaching its limits, one of the girls lost her balance because she could no longer hold on.

Seeing that she is about to fall, the orc which was holding the sword, took the chance to close the distance.....

At this moment, my familiar wolf entered the battle.

It crossed the moat with a jump and pushed the orc that is about to attack the girl, the orc and wolf then fell into the hole.

Hmm, well done! I stopped and gave praise.

「Kazu-senpai!」

Hearing Arisu's call, I quickly pat her shoulder as she ran past from behind.....

「《Haste》」

Golden light surround Arisu's entire body, and increased her speed. Holding her spear, Arisu thrust at the group of orcs on the left side.

She stabbed at the heart of the orc from its back. Suffering Arisu's blow, the orc fell with a groan. The orc group then realise that there is an attacker from their back, and are in a panic.

「Kazu-senpai, kazu-senpai, help me cast 『Haste』too!」

「No, Tamaki you will stay here and wait.」

「Huh——Why!」

「Your role is to protect me and Mia. Mia!」

「Hmm, 『Sleeping Song』!」

Rank 1 Wind Magic『Sleeping Song』is a magic that can cause an enemy to fall asleep. But it is also stated that if it is not done well, the target will wake up when it falls on the ground.

Mia cast『Sleeping Song』repeatedly on the group on the right side, and the orcs behind the group collapsed one by one.

Even if the orcs hit the ground with their heads after they suffered the magic, they still gave off the breathing sounds of a sound sleep.

On the other hand, the orcs in front are concentrated on the girls defending, completely did not discovered the

abnormality behind.

「Say, isn't this magic super strong?」

I could not help but whispered. Mia shrugged her shoulders.

「Hmm, the orcs are..... then I imagined.」

「More stupid.」

Since that is so, we do not need guards.

「Tamaki, give the sleeping orcs the final blow.」

「Understood, leave it to me!」

Tamaki ran to the right side where the fallen orcs are, and swing her giant axe down. No matter the target is the body or the head, Tamaki's strike is strong enough to kill the enemies in a blow.

These orcs could only gave a groan and then turned into gems.

On the other end, Arisu, who in among the orcs that are gathered on the left side, is in a tough battle.

Seeing that 6, 7 orcs gathered in Arisu's surround, she is already tied with just restraining them.

Even if it's Arisu, being surrounded is dangerous, I wish to summon another wolf to help her.

After the continuous battles, I don't know if my MP left is enough.

「Mia, how much MP do you have left?」

「Still okay, enough to help Arisu-senpai.」

Mia cast 『Heat Metal』.

The orc facing Arisu threw its weapon down. Noticing the moment that they become defenseless, Arisu gave a fierce strike. The vital points like the heart and throat are pierced through, and the orcs died one by one.

The 2 girls who are defending near the main door, regained their spirit because we entered the battle. The girl who know fire magic saw her chances and cast Rank 1 Fire Magic 『Fire Bullet』 to attack the orc in front of her.

The fire bullet hit the orc's face, burning it, and it fell painfully into the hole.

The girl discovered that the magic is effective, and casted 『Fire Bullet』 continuously defeating 3 orcs. The orcs behind noticed

the situation, and began to retreat a step back.

The girl noticed the chance and decide to cast «Fire Bullet» again.....

One of the orcs deliberately fell into the hole, and then climbed up the wall that is closer to the Cultivating Centre, thinking of using the sword to hook onto the leg of the girl.

Shit. I immediately had the crow on my side fly over. The orc with 1 hand on the wall and the other hand holding the sword, is pecked on the head by the crow, and it fell into the hole again with a groan.

「Watch the edge of your foot!」

「Ye.. yes! Thank you, Kazu-senpai!」

Ah, she called me Kazu-senpai. But for names, anything is fine.

Mia even called me「Kazu-chi」.

The leftover orcs, one of them is finished off by another girl with a strong stab. The other orcs are killed by Arisu, Tamaki and my familiar wolf.

The fighting spirit of the orcs finally collapsed, the few surviving 5 or 6 orcs escaped into the forest.

「Tamaki, Arisu, give chase! But do not force yourselves too much!」

Although it changes to a chasing battle, but the opponent escaped into different directions this time. As for my wolf..... I looked into the hole and saw that the 4 legged it, was in a tough situation because it was hard to climb out of the hole. Ah, this is something that can't be helped.

One of the orcs was caught up by Arisu when it had just entered the forest, she use the spear to stab at it fiercely. The dying groan echoed through the air, and Tamaki and Mia also leveled up at the same time.

◆ ◆ ◆

We entered discussion in the white room. The result after discussing, Tamaki raised Sword Skill to Rank 3, while Mia raised Earth Magic to Rank 3.

But the important thing is what to do next. There are about 3 orcs which escaped into the forest, should we give chase? I looked at Arisu and Tamak, both of them looked a bit tired. Even if that is so, as long as I give the order, they will still chasing after the orcs until the end of the world.

Then what will be the result? If the 2 of them chased too far in,

they could be discovered by other squads of orcs. If they are surrounded, and are unable to escape successfully——

Or what if they meet the underlings of the elite orcs.....

Okay. I set my determination and raised my head.

「The 2 of you listen up, do not keep pursuing. If you are too far away from the Cultivating Centre, then give up the pursuit and return.」

「Is this fine? Kazu-senpai?」

「The 2 of your safety is more important.」

I said so and placed my hands on their heads, caressing their hair.

「I believe in the 2 of you. Do not force yourselves.」

「Un..understood, Kazu-senpai.」

Tamaki blushed, raised her head and looked at me, and nodded. Hm, it seems that she will not disobey the order and only cared about chasing the orcs.

Tamaki: Level 4 Sword Skill 2 → 3 / Physical 1 Skill Point 4 → 1

Mia: Level 4 Earth Magic 2 → 3 / Wind Magic 1 Skill Point 4 → 1

We returned from the white room to reality.

Afterwards then I know that Arisu and Tamaki defeated another 2 orcs. They followed my instructions, and gave up pursuit, returning to the Cultivating Centre.

The surviving orcs will inform their companions about our existence. I pretended to be calm and listened to Arisu and their report.

Not long after, Shiki-san and co who are carrying the survivors came over carefully.

「Has it ended.....?」

「Hmm, it is finally over. Although it is not the best ending, but everyone worked hard..... but——」

I explained the situation simply. Shiki-san nodded with a stern expression.

「This place will be exposed sooner or later, since that is so, we have to increase our defense.」

The orcs know that the survivors are gathering here.

They will definitely come back, and it will be with a huge army. The next battle will be crucial.

Chapter 28 – Confrontation with Shiki

The girls in the lounge of the Cultivating Centre are panicking.

The orcs already knew that the surviving students are gathering in the Cultivating Centre, this news caused them to be very shocked.

What should I say to them? What sort of strategy should I take next?

Wait, is staying at the Cultivating Centre really the best choice? Wouldn't it be better to escape from this place immediately?

If we are going to escape, are we going to escape altogether?

About half of the girls that we brought back from girls' dormitory are still powerless, the others probably can't run too.

Don't tell me we have to abandon them and escape by ourselves?

Not caring if the others will agree, what shall we do in the future? Liberate another place from the orcs, and use that place as a base? Or avoid the orcs, and camp while moving?

Even if we protect our lives temporarily, what about tomorrow or the day after?

Or shall we abandon everyone?

How about only Arisu, Tamaki, Mia and I escape? But will Arisu and the others agree.....

I stood at the entrance where the intense battle had just occur, desperately thinking. Tamaki, Arisu and Mia looked at me with their faces full of worry.

Shiki-san clapped her hands, focusing everyone's attention on herself.

「Anyway let's do what we can do.」

The girls began to move with her instructions. She allowed the survivors who remained weak and lifeless to sleep on the beds on level 3, and lead the girls who came from the girls' dormitory to the showers.

In this timing, I only watched silently at Shiki-san instructing the middle school students.

Actually I am very clear that she is more familiar with such stuff as compared to myself. No matter how she is as a battle

commander, she is definitely a leader with ability.

And the conflict between Shiki-san and me, is the greatest instability in this group. Noticing this point, probably is only Arisu who knew everything. But everyone will discover it eventually.

They will discovered my narrow-mindedness, and Shiki-san's good points. Then everyone will.....

No, I have battle prowess, and Arisu and Tamaki also obeys me. Since I have the power, the others will not reject me.

But so what? With this problem, can we win against the orcs?

I almost bit my lips with a strength that could cut.

Weak minded, paranoid and timid, I began to hate myself like this.

What should I do?

I decided.

I raised my head and looked at Arisu and the others.

「I wish to temporarily disband the party.」

I used my smile to pacify the 2 of them who are shocked, and walked outside to send the crow out to scout.

Then to Shiki-san who came to the lounge to command, and grabbed her hand.

「Oi, wait, what do you want!」

Shiki-san's face turned green and looked at me with a timid expression. Shit, I forgot that she is scared of touching guys.

I immediately apologised to her, and then entered the main topic.

「Form a party with me.」

「What do you want.....」

「I will level up with another orc, I wish to speak with you in the white room.」

Shiki-san looked at me, while confused.

「Only the 2 of us?」

Shiki-san can tell what kind of determination from my expression?

「Understood, I will go with you.」

Even though she is hesitate, she still nodded, and this time my crow returned with the information.

「In the south-east forest, there is an orc patrolling, I will go and defeat that fellow.」

「We cannot leave for too long, so let's set out immedately.」

Shiki-san and I entered the forest quickly.

We only spent 5 min then we discovered the orc patrolling with a spear. I ordered the gray wolf to attack. The familiar wolf lurge at the orc, and the orc used the spear to retaliate.

「Hurry up and end it.」

Shiki-san's voice came over. I surveyed the surroundings but I can't find her figure. Because she used Detection Skill, and began stealth movements.

I was shocked. She can't be thinking of killing me.....

I shook my head to shake off that thinking. How could that be, it is more possible for you, Gaya Kazuhisa. Now to her, killing me has no advantages.

In reality, Shiki-san is currently hiding in a blind spot at the tree, throwing a small knife at the orc which was fighting with the wolf, and that knife embedded deeply in the back of the orc.

The orc was enraged, and turned back, forgetting to defend against the wolf.

The wolf did not miss the chance and lunged at the orc.

The gray wolf pressed down the orc and tore apart its windpipe.

I leveled up.

Shiki-san and I are sent to the white room together, becoming the situation where the 2 of us faced each other.

「I have something to say to you.」

That is how I spoke.

◆◆◆

In the white room, Shiki-san and I faced each other, the 2 of us are about 1m away from each other.

「The content to discuss has 2 point, which are regarding

battles from now and.....」

While saying, I observed Shiki-san's eyes.

「Regarding you and me.」

「I understand.」

Shiki-san grasped her hands in front of her chest, and nodded seriously, she should be understanding the reason why I brought her to this room.

「So, the aim for bringing me here is to torture me to your delight? Just like what you did to Arisu.」

「You are teasing me right?」

「Ermm, yes.」

Shiki-san curved the edge of her mouth sarcastically.

「Sorry, I am the type that will die if I don't act strong. If you are not happy, you can beat up until you are happy.」

「You are actually a masochist right?」

Shiki-san shrugged her shoulders lightly.

「I only believe that you would not do something that Arisu hates.」

「You are really irritating!」

She is completely fooling around with me. After using words to tease me, Shiki-san's expression turned serious, saying:

「Okay——」

「Regarding what you are hesitating about, I shall put these words first. You saved my life, saved me from hell. Although I had decided to die from the bottom of my heart then, but now it is different, I have already sworn to survive. Hence your strength is absolutely essential. As for the middle section girls, I will influence them to embrace the idea of worshipping you.」

What is that, it is too scary. Influencing other people's thoughts? Wait, what is this person saying?

「Surprised?」

Shiki-san laughed lightly.

「This isn't something hard. Those kids need a hero who can be their spiritual support. Arisu was saying about you while beaming in front of them, I am just following the flow. If you do not disagree, I will also praise you in front of everyone from now on.」

「Please do not push it too much.」

My expression is probably very bitter. Only seeing Shiki-san using her hand to cover her mouth, and lightly laughing.

「Are you looking down on me?」

「Why would I, I am only laughing at myself for belittling you.」

「The meaning is that your evaluation of me is very low initially?」

Shiki-san used her index finger and supported her chin. After giving a「hmm——」sound, then she looked up at the ceiling.

「How should I say~ you having such a leadership ability, is indeed out of my expectation.」

「I am not suitable to be a leader.」

「After Arisu met you yesterday, roughly about 2 hours later, she is idolising you from the bottom of her heart. Today too, Tamaki and Mia trusted you fully after a few hours.」

「Regarding Arisu, should be good luck or fate..... Tamaki and Mia are due to the presence of Arisu. They only need an older guy, there shouldn't be any difference if he is not me.」

Shiki-san shrugged her shoulders.

「No matter what, you have obtained victory in all your battles until now, I feel that that is something amazing.」

「Regarding that, I can only say it is due to luck.」

In actuality, if the timing was wrong, perhaps we would really have lost a few battles.

The battle at the girls' dormitory is the same, if the level up timing was not timely, it will probably be hard for us to recover. If we are in that situation, we could have been completely wiped out by the elite orc, or let Mia conjure fog with wind magic and escape with our tails behind our back.

「Forget the process, the most important is the ending. You obtained victory continuously in the battles, and everyone knows this.」

「So that is the reason for praising me?」

「To unite everyone, that is a must. You should not complain too much in front of everyone. At most express your weakness in front of me or Arisu, I have already told that to Arisu.」

「The so called told, means.....」

「For everyone to respect you, her assistance is necessary. Sorry, I used your lover.」

That was uncalled for—— that is what I thought. But I am also worried if Shiki Yukariko will expose my pitiful side at the high school section..... Am I worrying too much?

「What did Arisu say?」

「As long as it can help you, even if you give off the dirty look, she will also endure it. That's good, she allowed you to flirt around.」

That sentence gave me a shock. I remembered what Arisu said previously——If Tamaki is willing, I wish for you to develop relationships with her. Is that also Shiki-san's idea?

I confirmed with her for a moment, but Shiki-san was stunned.

「I did not plan on doing it until that far?」

「What is going on?」

「Did the students in the middle school section agreed to share their boyfriends.....?」

Shiki-san shook her head in doubt, and sunk into thoughts. I glared at her.

「I did not hear of such a thing.」

「Do you have friends which will talk about this with you?」

This blow completely took me out.

I silently looked away, and walked weakly to my computer. I sat at the chair in front of the computer and sighed. Shiki-san quickly came over and apologised profusely.

「Sorry, I am really sorry. This is my bad habit, always saying something unnecessary unknowingly.」

「That sentence was too much!」

I turned and glared at her, my eyes are probably full of tears.

「Mmm, I apologise, no matter how times it is. I am willing to do anything, so please!」

Shiki-san bowed, and clasped her hands, begging. Ah ah, damn, I feel that she didn't mean it..... Seems that she is naturally foul-mouthed.

「You gave me a scare, I didn't expect that Shiki-san is more evil

than I expected.」

「That's right, I am an evil-hearted and twisted woman, a whore who is lousier than scum.」

「There is no need to say it until like that!」

Ah ah, this person is really—— Shiki-san winked at me with a face of innocence.

I really.. want to bash her up..... No, mmm I am currently not holding as much hatred towards her as compared to the past, nor really hating from the bottom of my heart.

I am clear that I have a feeling of closeness towards her, so the 「bash her up」 that I said, is closer to 「I want to tsukkomi her」. I revealed a bitter smile, that sort of feeling is long forgotten by me. I don't know why, but I feel a bit happy.

Ah, thinking about it carefully, Arisu, Tamaki and Mia are all students in the middle school section. To them, I am an older guy, a senpai.

How long was it that I have had a conversation target of my age like Shiki-san? I stood up and shrugged my shoulder, expressing that I no longer mind her misspoken words.

「Back to the topic just now, your meaning is that—— I can

order you as much as I want?」

「Yes, even if you used me so much until my soul and body are all torn and tattered like a cloth..... There is nothing sexual in the meaning though?」

「I know.」

「Ah, but if you want to do some sexual assault, I will also keep it a secret. After all I owe you that, I will not resist.」

「I already said I wouldn't assault you.」

Shiki-san laughed and said「I know」.

「Arisu is really adorable.」

「Yes. Serious and honest, and would not disturb others like a certain person.」

Now it is Shiki-san who crumpled.

「You.....」

Good, I won a round. I gave a victory pose in my heart

「Then the bickering battle should end here, there is nothing to it if we continue.」

「Indeed..... Anyway, if you don't disagree, I will take charge of the housekeeping and controlling over everyone. Sorry, I actually did an action of testing.」

「You are waiting for me to sort out my feelings right?」

Shiki-san smiled bitterly.

Mmm, that's right, now I can understand. The reason why she gave command to me completely, it is not because of courtesy, nope expecting my capabilities.

She is gambling. Until I discovered my own limits and count on her. Although I feel it is a bit despicable, but I also feel that such a method is very effective.

Although her spirit is still in tension due to the event yesterday, but now she is looking forward and continuing to fight desperately. Even if she have to work hard and suffer, she also wanted to survive. And she believe letting everyone survive is the best method and hence even deciding to make use of me.

The strong fighting spirit, and the aura of being able to recover over any kind of setbacks, is very shining in the me who is always escaping from bad events.

Perhaps even such an interaction is also her act of trying to resolve the problems between us. Her actions perhaps is trying to form a common topic through ridiculing and mocking each other.

But, doesn't this mean that I have never escaped from her clutches.....

But this is fine. She reveal her true thoughts. At least she opened her heart and is honest, just this is enough for me to believe her.

「Then I will be counting on you.」

「Okay.」

I reached out with my hand, and shook hands with Shiki-san.

Chapter 29 – The Two Playmakers

「I trust you, our party need someone like you who have leadership abilities. For the sake of uniting everyone, I hope you will move accordingly.」

「I understand, I will do my best to work for you. Just wait, I will create an organisation which can give you your needed support, handle the troubles that you may bring and allow everyone to live together.」

Shiki-san continued:

「Hence, you must also attain the strength that can counter whatever that happens successfully.」

We all knew that even if we do not say it out, that all these actions are based on a premise—— that there will not be any support.

If the teachers in the middle school section are safe, they would have contacted us long ago. The worst scenario is that even the high school section are completely wiped out.

Or there is still a possibility, which is that they are not united like us, and end up going against each other, becoming separated.

While we have Shiki-san, the talented girl who is willing to step aside and promote me as leader and unite everyone. Even if it is the high school section, there may not be a student or teacher as talented who survived.

Only a person who leveled to level 1 can survive in such a tough environment; a person can only improve his strength steadily by forming a group and training others to grow.

The worst is that, the people who can reach level 1 currently, perhaps are the people who are in the Cultivating Centre only.

We have to unite everyone who is level 1 and above, and form an organisation who have the same will, if not we will be annihilated.

No, people whose level are like me and Arisu, will perhaps have the method to continue to escape in a person or 2 team. When my level reaches 50, perhaps my familiar will be able to restrain the rocs. But with just this, it is probably not enough.

Even if it is just assumption, but these orcs are definitely just a vanguard.

Why is there a white room? Why are we transported to another world with the entire mountain? It is strange with just these stupid orcs suddenly appearing in this school.

There is still [something] hiding behind this event.

This is definitely only the beginning.

Even the orcs' attacks is also a preparation period for the real arrival of the disaster. Shiki-san's words are obviously hinting this as a premise.

The organisation created to handle the future, is mainly constituted of the people who supports the elite few with me as leader. Shiki-san also express to me that she will lead the support team, and take the role of the villain to handle the

troublesome issue.

Why didn't she say out these words yesterday or in the morning?

That is because I did not trust her then.

She is extremely smart, to the extent that people will hate it. She had such a blueprint from the start, and planned everything to be so. That extremely smart brain is now attempting to move forward.

Honestly speaking, I hate her like this, but at the same time envious of her. But, right now we need people like Shiki Yukariko, after all I can't do something like that.

The magnanimity to accept others—— that is the request she had for me.

Okay, I will become what you desire.

I have people who I want to protect—— Arisu. To protect her, no matter how big the changes, I will show it to everyone. Even if it's the devil, I will also work with him.

Moreover as compared to the devil, her methods are definitely better.

「Then, let us restart the strategy meeting.」

「Hmmm, first is about how many enemies will come and attack.....」

「Estimated number will not be low. Hence, regarding companion placement.....」

Shiki-san took out a black marker from who knows where, and began drawing the map around the Cultivating Centre on the ground.

「I have long wanted to draw on the ground to see.」

She said with a face of happiness, revealing her naughty smile.

「And it is okay to anyhow draw here, because next time when we return, everything will be back to normal.」

「Well that is right.....」

Reversely speaking, this also means that no matter what we write in this room, we cannot bring it out. What we can bring out from this room, are only memories.

So we discussed to the limits in this room. We did not care about the time and continued to discuss everything.

I finally understood one thing, although it is kinda ironic, but she is quite compatible with me. First she gave the initial concept, then I used it as base to create a concrete plan. When my tactics are not enough, she is able to discover and remedy it. As the plans become more concrete, our thoughts became more aligned.

Finally just with「this」,「that」,「which」,「there」, we can communicate.

「I did not expect that it will become like this.」

Shiki-san crossed eyes with me, and revealed a bitter smile, seemingly as surprised about this.

Other than that, she seem to be a game lover. She seems to want to hide this..... But I discovered it from her words.

「Shiki-san seems to be very familiar with games.」

「There is no such thing.」

「Since that is so, why did you treat support magic as buffs?」

「I.. I didn't say that.」

Shiki-san's cheeks were dyed red, and she turned her head away. Oi, now it has come to this, is there a need to hide?

「Come come, reveal all your embarrassing past.」

「No, I am only slightly addicted to MMO, and end up not exiting the house for half a year. So my parents send me to this stay-in school with no internet in a fit of anger.....」

Shiki-san's past is too unexpected, and surprised me. She who is the vice class rep is actually addicted to net games and neglected real life. Does our classmate know this?

「Since entering this school, I changed my mentality, and concentrate on studying. The reason for entering the Tea Ceremony Society, is also to tell my parents that I changed.....」

「All these are just pretending.」

The result need to enter this school for transfer students is very high, for a person who only cared about playing net games to be able to get in, is too amazing. Her usual result must be really good, no wonder this worried her parents. But now, it has become like this.....

「After coming to another world, don't even mention internet, there isn't even anything.」

「Yes.」



「Then again, I do not know if I will survive pass today, in fact I am not even sure I will be alive 2 hours later. Ah, don't get it wrong, I will only rant in this place, outside I will still pretend to be a leader who is full of confidence.」

So you have to maintain your confident state—— this is her hidden words.

「But from another point of view, I entered the Tea Ceremony Society because of minding other people's views, that's why I am still alive, this perhaps is also a good thing.」

After experiencing that sort of thing, and still could say「good thing」? Even if it's me, I can't. Shiki-san seems to feel my doubts from my atmosphere, and she maintained the posture of hugging her chest, and lightly shrugged her shoulders.

「As for the high school section having any survivors, I did not have any hopes for it.」

「Is it?」

「Even if there are survivors, I don't even know if there is 1 out of 10 people. And perhaps there are a few being captured by orcs now?」

Hmm, considering the difficulty of raising everyone to level 1, it is indeed so..... My feelings could not help but turn dark. I

really wish to send the crows to the high school section to scout as fast as possible, but currently there isn't any leftover energy and time to handle such matters.....

If there is leftover energy, then I wish to send the crow to scout each dorm in the middle school section.

「Right——」

Shiki-san said.

「Can I call you Kazu-kun?」

Meaning she wish to show that she is close with me in front of others? Currently this group is a group of juniors ruled by me and Shiki-san. The leaders calling each others' close name should bring them a sense of ease. (TL note: in japan, they usually call each other by their surname until they are close enough to call them by their names. So it's a sign of being close.)

「No problem, I don't mind. But I want to call you Shiki-san like as always.」

「Ah, the girls in class also call me so, who told『Yukariko』to be so hard to be spoken.」

That saying, I remember the girls in class did call her Shiki-

san.

「Ah, I did not hate my own name. Although I feel it is old fashion, feels super old.」

Isn't that the meaning of hate? I wish to tsukkomi but since it's regarding such a troublesome topic that is names, hence I choose to be silent.

「But as long as you want to, if it's Yukariko, Yukari or Yukarin is fine.」

「Shiki-san is better.」

Right—— Shiki-san smiled.

「That's all, please take care of me, Kazu-kun.」

Shiki-san reached out to me with her hand again, and I took it without any hesitation.

「Ah, there is no need to force yourself to become closer with me at such times. When we are alone, it is fine to call me pathetic orcs' hole.」

「It is about time for your self-sarcasm to stop.」

Shiki-san stick her tongue out and laugh naughty. She can

show herself as being so brave, her strong heart can indeed be quite dependable.....

Finally—— Shiki-san said.

「In this battle, other than your party, the others will be commanded by me. Other than the elite party, I will accept the authority to order the other members, is that fine？」

What does that mean? I tilted my head in doubt.

「The meaning is, you only need to think about how to protect the lives of Arisu, Tamaki and Mia.」

「It is fine for me..... But why?」

Shiki-san lifted her hair in silence, seeing her sorrowful eyes, I understood immediately.

「Your meaning is that our companions will die? And I will be unable to handle that guilt?」

「Just an assumption only. But if things really happen, you will collapse due to guilt, and I will be troubled by it.」

「So that guilt will be shouldered by you?」

「I will endure it for you to see. As long as I thought about being

raped by orcs before, then I feel that throwing away my companions after using them is nothing much.]

Lies—— I stared at her. How can she lie to me with that expression and sight? But Shiki-san showed a warm smile at me.

[Just said it's in case, I only wish to consider the worst situation first. You and me, if one will die first..... Shouldn't it be better if it's me?]

I am unable to retort. From an objective point of view, what she said is the truth.

Kazuhisa: Level 7 Support Magic 3 / Summon Magic 3 Skill Points 2

Chapter 30 – The Second Defensive Battle at the Cultivating Centre 1

We returned to the original place.

I immediately summoned 3 familiar crows and let them go scout.

Next, Shiki-san and I returned to the Cultivating Centre, with Arisu and others receiving us with faces of worry.

Shiki-san and I tried waving to them with happy expressions as much as possible.

「Everyone, we let you wait, my meeting with Kazu-kun has ended. Next is to explain how to fight, please gather everyone.」

Everyone seem to have discovered that Shiki-san has changed how she called me.

Arisu looked at me with probing eyes. I patted her shoulders to ease her worries, and whispered to her that「we are back to normal.」

「The back to normal, refers to which type of normal?」

I don't know why, but Arisu stared at me with unhappy eyes. I tilted my head in confusion.

Shiki-san grabbed her wrist in front of her chest and showed a surprised expression.

「Kazu-kun, you are really good.」

「I only heard that you are saying that I am stupid.」

「That is the meaning all right. No worries Arisu, we just got rid of the troubles on the leader.」

Arisu blinked and said「I see」while nodding, as though accepting the answer. Then again, the only person who knew

about the complicated relationship between me and Shiki-san, is only Arisu.

「Kazu-san, you worked very hard.」

「It's due to Arisu and everyone's hard work. But the one who worked the hardest is Shiki-san.」

「Yes, but I am really glad.」

Arisu showed her smile to me. I could not help by caress her hair, and she squinted her eyes in happiness. Ah the angel is here.

「Okay okay, stop being affectionate over there, I am beginning.」

Shiki-san clapped her hand, telling us to listen seriously.

◆◆◆

Currently students who are level 1 and above in the Cultivating Centre amounts to 11, including me.

The system rules that a party can have almost 6 people. After discussing with Shiki-san, we created 3 parties of 4, 6 and 1.

The 4 person main force is formed by me, Arisu, Tamaki and

Mia. The leftover 7 people formed another support party, excluding Shiki-san. And Shiki-san is a solo party, that is what she suggested.

「This is for just in case, for me to get the time to think about how to fight.」

As a solo party, then you can decide when to level up. Completely utilising the white room—— that sort of thinking is dependable, or should it be scary?

No, usually speaking, you will feel its dependable.

The basic tactic is simple.

「The building of Cultivating Centre is not suitable for defending, if the enemies break in from the side wall, we will be powerless. Although just now the orcs did not do so, but if it is the elite orc then what will happen?」

In the discussion of Shiki-san and me, this is the biggest point.

I have seen that fearful strength of the elite orc close up before. That brute strength wielding the axe, destroyed the stairs of the lobby.

If the wooden walls of the Cultivating Centre suffered that sort of blow, will it be able to withstand it?

Shiki-san expressed that「the structure of the Cultivating Centre is not that weak」, while I replied that no matter what kind of structure, initially we also didn't expect that the elite orcs will attack.

In the end my opinion was accepted and after Shiki-san agreed, hence proposing this tactic.

「So we can only go out and fight. Luckily there is only a forest route going to the Cultivating Centre, and it is only about 5m wide. The surrounding woods are also very thick, so it will be hard fighting a group battle. Even if there are a lot of orcs, the width of the road can only handle 3 orcs side by side. So for defending, the most suitable terrain is outside.」

The main fighting force will be the girls who are using spears as weapons. Other than Arisu, there are 3 others who chose to raise Spear Skill. Among them, 2 of them are the girls who stayed behind to contribute to the defense of the Cultivating Centre. Their level also rose to level 2 due to that and raised Spear Skill to Rank 2.

We decided to let them line up and form a wall at the road.

「Before the spear wall, we have to dig a shallow part first. Hurry up and began on this, about 20~30cm will do, Kazu-san please.」

After I answered 「understood」, then I left the Cultivating Centre with the shovel, without listening to the explanation.

「As for the orcs coming from the left and right side of the forest.....」

Shiki-san continued to explain. As for the content, I also do not have the need to continue listening.

After all this is the strategy that the 2 of us thought up.

◆◆◆

I crossed the plaza in front of the Cultivating Centre, the road in front could barely allow a truck to pass. I walked about 5m on the road before stopping to began digging.

Rather than digging a hole, actually I am only digging a bit. The digging is proceeding very smoothly. The soil on this road is already packed very tightly due to the people walking, so to be able to dig so smoothly, is all due to «Physical Up».

In the process of digging, the crows came back a few times. According to their report, the orcs seemed to have gathered at the main school building and among them, there are elite orcs, and there are a few of them.....

Multiple elite orcs huh.....

This battle will be harsh—— I realised. But if it's only to this extent, Shiki-san has already predicted it. Aiya, this is not simple. Initially I had felt that her assumption was too negative.....

The points she pointed out, are surprisingly important. Thank goodness, if we moved according to my optimistic prediction, now we will be in a panic.

I sent the crows again, slowly getting hold of the positions of the enemies.

Other than that, I continued digging. Until when I realise it, the entire shallow portion in the road is already done.

「Good work.」

A voice came from the back. I turned and discovered a girl from the middle school section standing behind me, she was one of the girls that stayed to defend the Cultivating Centre.

The girl held a white plate in her hands, with 4 onigiri wrapped with seaweed on it. (TL note: onigiri = japanese rice ball)

「Sorry, there are only canned salmon inside.」

She raised her head shyly and looked at me.

「Ah, your hands are dirty, I will bring a handkerchief for you.」

「No need, it's fine.」

I used my muddy hands to pick up the onigiri, and wolfed them down.

Now it have come to this, I also do not care about this degree of dirtiness, even finding the time that's used to wipe my hands is a waste.

From the report of the crows, those orcs will probably begin their movements soon.

Perhaps they have already began to move.

I don't know if it is due to working too hard, the salty onigiri is very delicious. And because my stomach is very hungry, the 4 onigiri is finished by me in a moment.

Then again, breakfast was before daybreak. And too much things happened in the morning, causing me to forget my hunger.

「Thanks for the treat, it's very delicious.」

「It is just a rough meal, but I made it.」

The girl revealed a innocent smile.

「Thanks for helping me just now, I had thought that I will be dead.」

It was due to luck, being able to make it in time and helping companions is only natural. Moreover bringing out 5 person from the defending of the Cultivating Centre without thinking too much, is originally my mistake.....

But there is no need to admit it myself, hence I accepted her thanks directly.

「In the next battle, it will be my turn to protect Kazu-senpai!」

「Argh..... Rather than senpai, I preferred being called san..」

「Okay, Kazu-san! Please do not worry, just relax and wait in the rear!」

I answered 「is it」, and looked at the girl's hand. Digging since morning, the skin on her hands are all broken. So she used such hands to make the onigiri, I could not help but felt apologetic.

No, when she is making the onigiri, I am also desperately digging here. But I felt that digging to me is very natural, as though like breathing—— Anyway, it is already natural.

◆◆◆

After that, after 5 minutes.

The 3 girls holding spears, waited for the enemy at trench which is 5m wide, 20~30cm high and 3m deep.

Mia and I stood behind them and a gray wolf familiar was beside me.

The leftover members are spreaded out in the forest or on trees.

Rumblings echoed over, dust clouds began to form from the middle school section building.

The orc army is currently invading here, luckily we have already made ample preparations for them.

Their movements caused the grounds to shake and groan. Woah, it is super majestic.

The orcs' leader turned at the curve around 50m ahead and the other orcs followed closely behind.

Once they saw our figures, they began to roar in anger. The orcs went into a frenzy and edged closer. This oppressive violent group is slowly approaching.

Even though the girls are scared, they managed to steady their legs. From the lesson gotten at the girls' dormitory, this time I cast support magic Rank 1『Clear Mind』on everyone.

Thanks to this magic increasing the will, they did not escape even while staring at the huge orc army. But I also sacrificed a lot of MP, with roughly 30 left.....

Next, is for them to execute the strategy calmly.

Then again, there are over 100 orcs. I tried to stay calm, but it is impossible mentally, constantly worrying if I will make a mistake.

Is this instruction really fine? Can I protect Arisu and the others?

No, I can. I clenched my fist. It is not whether I can but rather I have to.

The foremost orc stepped into the trench I dug.

The second orc also stepped in, those orcs began to raise their

weapons together.....

「That's now, Mia!」

「Hmm,『Earth Pit』.」

Mia used a powerless voice to activate the magic. Earth Magic Rank 3 『Earth Pit』 is a magic that digs a hole in the ground. The effect is a 3m radius, and its depth can reach 5m.

This magic is not able to make a very deep hole immediately, but could only make the enemy sink slowly. But if it activates along the trench.....

At the left side in front of us, the 3 orcs began to shake. Those 3 orcs stepped into the trench while raising their weapons, and then lost their balance.

This moment, the girls who are holding the spears, began to strike repeatedly. The orcs behind tried to stop, but they are pushed by their companions who came from behind at full speed. The orcs stacked up, and fell into the ground, slowly stacking up in the hole that is gradually becoming deeper.

The companions beside them suddenly disappeared, causing the orcs on the right side to stop moving due to confusion.

「『Earth Pit』」

Mia used her move again mercilessly, the second hole slowly spread from under the right side of the orc group. The orcs on this side are also pushed forward due to their companions behind, and they fell into the hole from the foremost guy.

The orcs' cries and sounds of being crushed echoed out, and the sounds of the monster dying spreaded to the surrounding.

Chapter 31 – The Second Defensive Battle at the Cultivating Centre 2

Mia and I listened to the cries of the orcs being squashed after falling to the hole, and looked at each other.

「These experience will be given to who? If they are given to the orcs who squash them then it will be bad.」

「If they evolve, it will become troublesome.」

If the holes we dug end up allowing the orcs to evolve into elite orcs——

Just thinking about it makes one feel irritated. But actually I do not know how elite orcs came to be.

Among the helpless orcs, a few due to lack of means, began to create a path into the left and right side of the forest. Perhaps it is to go around it to finish us off, but——

Laments from the orcs came through the forest.

That was done by Tamaki and Arisu.

I had them hide in the left and right side of the forest, and wait until the orcs began to cut the grass that was as tall as them to enter, and then finish them off.

Hearing the tragic cries of their companions, the fear in the other orcs caused them to want to turn back, which can be said to be in a pinch.

「Missile team, attack!」

Hearing my command, the girls, who are apt at long range and are hiding on the trees on the left and right side of the forest, began to attack together.

The girls who have the Throwing Skill threw the plastic bags that had kerosene.

The plastic bag split open with a Pa sound when it hit the orcs' head, and the kerosene in it sprayed over the orcs' head and shoulders.

Next the fire magic users release fireballs.

Those fireball hit the orcs' bodies, and sparks scattered.

The kerosene ignited, causing the orcs' bodies to burn. The orcs who are covered in flames, rolled around on the ground in pain, causing even more chaos.

The girls who have throwing skills threw the spears and axes obtained from the orcs, further deepening the chaos midst the orcs.

Actually it will be better with archers, but we do not have the most important bow, hence no one chose the shooting skill.

If we can obtain bows and arrows, it means that the orcs have archers. If there are long distance hitters in the orcs' camp, then our strategy will not hold, so I can only hope that such ranged weapons do not exist here.

That's right, the basis of Shiki-san and my plan is that the orcs will always take melee actions.

Currently we can only confirm that the orcs' weapons are spears, axes and swords.

Actually if we categorise it carefully, there will be more types.....

For example spears, there are roughly 5m and shaped sinisterly spears until those that are short enough to be called

short spears.

There are various sizes for swords and axes, every one of them have something that is different.

And as for whether they will throw their weapons, the answer is definitely a yes.

The truth is that yesterday at the level 2 of the Cultivating Centre, I was nearly killed by the orc which threw a short axe.

Even so, as long as the basic movement of the orcs are melee combat, our tactics should..... be effective.

Currently there are a few orcs beginning to throw the axes and spears in their hands at the girls in the trees.

But the trees that they are on, are all very sturdy, as long as they hide behind it, they can dodge the majority of the attacks.

We are just trying to stop the enemies' movement, increasing their chaos. I also commanded everyone to not push it too much.

Our real targets are on the ground.

「Mia, you should take the chance to retreat and rest.」

Mia nodded with a 「mmm」 sound, and retreated to the courtyard in front of the Cultivating Centre.

Okay, we have successfully dampened the enemies' spirit at the beginning, but next is the main show.

Shiki-san who replaced Mia, ran over.

「Can you call out another wolf? I want it to go over to the left and right side of the forest as support.」

I already have a wolf beside me, to ask me to call out another, is to let them enter the 2 sides of the forest separately to support Arisu and Tamaki?

Shiki-san has been using Detection Skill to erase her presence until now, and hiding in the forest scouting. Seems that she confirmed that the orcs will rush into the forest soon.

Because of the continuous battles, my MP is left with only 30, from just now I have been barely hanging on. If I summon another gray wolf, I will use another 9 MP.

But this concerns Arisu and Tamaki's safety.

「Understood, although the MP will be abit tight, but if it's just one, it is still fine.」

「Please, 『Mighty Arm』will be enough as buff.」

I followed her instructions and only gave the wolves 『Mighty Arm』 before ordering them to enter the left and right side of the forest, to support Arisu and Tamaki respectively. The orcs are only repeating this process—— pushed forward due to the pressure from behind, then falling into the hole; or enter the 2 sides of the forest, then killed by Arisu or Tamaki.

In such a smooth situation, I was sent to the white room.

Arisu leveled up.

「Arisu, Tamaki, how many did you 2 kill?」

The 2 of them reported their spoils of war. If what they say is true, then the number of preys to the level up is not enough. The wolves' result is not enough to cover the gap, in other words.....

「Mia, the orcs that are squished to death after falling into your 『Earth Pit』, seems to be considered your kills.」

「Hmm, such a nice design.」

Mia raised her thumb. After we discussed briefly, then we return back to the original place.

Arisu: Level 7 Spear Skill 3/Healing Magic 3 Skill Point 2

◆◆◆

After returning from the white room, I confirmed the situation.

The intense battle is continuing in the frontline. The 3 girls used their spears and stabbed harshly at the orcs in the holes, and before long, their next prey will deliver themselves.

But they are a 6 person party, to level up to level 2, they have to defeat 13 orcs, to level up to level 3 they have to defeat 18.....

As I was thinking of this, the girls' movements suddenly stopped. They leveled up.

「We raised Spear Skill.」

The girl who is only level 1 until just now, said so. Hmm, very good. Their spear skill are all Rank 2, and the skills at finishing of the orcs are becoming more trained.

With this, the 2 person who are originally level 2 will need to kill 6 more orcs to level up? Okay take it easy. I ask Shiki-san who is beside me:

「Then again, did you discover the traces of elite orcs?」

「There are 3 at the back.」

I bit my lip tightly. Only Arisu and Tamaki can hold back the elite orcs, in a 1 on 1 situation, they could at most buy some time.

If Weapon Skills raised to 4, then it will be easier to score a victory in a 1 on 1. But in the situation in front of us, they still have to rely on Mia's magic as support.

Or perhaps I can use 《Reflection》 well.....

But this skill is not only harsh on the timing, and full of risk, I do not know if I can target correctly in the chaos of the battle.

Indeed I have to depend on Mia. But this is also restricted to the time when there is one opponent, dealing with 2 together is too harsh.

And now there are 3, along with a lot of underlings.

「Wait a moment.」

After Shiki-san finished, then she disappeared from my sight, seems that she used Detection Skill.

The short spear that flew out from the shadows of the tree, hit

the stomach of the orc that is about to enter the forest.

The orc disappear like dew.

This moment Shiki-san also returned.

「Now I only need to kill 1 more to level up.」

To be correct, Shiki-san is still level 1, and she defeated an orc when hunting with me, so her current experience is 90, 30 points away from the next level.

「Shall I keep the white room for now?」

「After all there is nothing to think about for now.」

Hmm, that's right. The orc group is clustered together, in confusion. We should take this chance to reduce their numbers as much as possible.

There's hope. Before the elite orcs appear, Arisu and Tamaki's weapon skill may raise to Rank 4.

Luckily, there are many prey orcs for us to get experiences, but.....

At the frontlines, the 3 person who are using spears are staring down as the orcs who are separated by the trap.

The orcs who decided to go around the forest are also picked out one by one by Arisu, Tamaki and the familiar wolves, giving out dying cries. The orcs are all very stupid, hence there will definitely be ways to settle it, but if this carries on.....

When I realised it, I have already gone to the white room.

「Mia and I leveled up!」

Tamaki said so. Ah I see, they rose to level 5.

But the 2 of them currently only have 3 Skill Points, they need to raise their level by another before they can raise their main skill to Rank 4. According to calculations, Arisu will reach level 8 around the same time, and then Spear Skill will be Rank 4.

「We have to defeat 24 orcs more.」

「Then, Arisu and I will *dash and rush over, then *bang to defeat a lot of orcs! Ah, Arisu, let's go!」(TL note: * indicates sounds said by Tamaki)

With a face of excitement, Tamaki kept dancing around, and her golden-coloured ponytail jumped around like whips.

「Argh—— Kazu-san.....」

Arisu revealed a troubled look at me. Hmm, Tamaki has already lost herself to excitement, this fellow will probably fall due to gambling or something in the future.

「Tamaki's suggestion is currently rejected.」

「Eeee—— Why!」

「According to Shiki-san's report, there are 3 elite orcs.」

Tamaki's face turned blue.

「I...if that so! Then isn't it more important to level up faster?」

「If we forced our way deep into the enemy's camp to defeat the small fries, then when we meet the elite orcs, we will not only be in an exhausted state, we could be surrounded. I feel that dealing with the small fries and fighting with the elite orcs together is too difficult.」

Don't get it wrong, even if weapon skill is Rank 4, we could at most go toe to toe with the elite orc.

I wish to let Arisu and Tamaki battle in the best state. For this fellow who disregard people's good will, I have to give her a bit of punishment.

「Tamaki, next time you leak, I will make you wear diapers to

battle.」

「W..wait a moment, that's too much.」

I looked at Arisu.

「You should say something to her too.」

「Ah, erm, this okay! Argh Tamaki, not going to the toilet properly is not good?」

I feel that the place to tsukkomi is not there.

For the sake of not letting Tamaki lose control, how should I advise her? Hmm—— I am glad that her spirits are high.

But regarding this..... Although it is only a prediction, I always have the feeling that because she had failure, hence she had the mentality of『needing to make some achievements』.

In the battle at the girls' dormitory, Tamaki did not help and hence her mental wounds opened again. Perhaps because of this, she felt that she gave us some trouble.

She must be afraid that if she did not give a brilliant performance this time, then she will be abandoned by me and Arisu.

Perhaps she herself did not realise this.

If it is like this, no matter how we try to convince her, it will be hard to change her thinking.

What she needs now is confidence, hence I decided to change my thinking.

「Mia, how many MP do you have left?」

「About 20.」

I see, it is about the same as me? Should save the MP needed for casting Rank 2 Earth Magic 『Heat Metal』 thrice, for the sake of dealing with the elite orcs..... Hmm, this method should be fine.

「Please cast 『Earth Pit』and『Rampage Plant』twice each.」

「Are you sure? This is a trump card?」

「As long as we defeat 14 orcs, I can level up. Arisu, Tamaki, follow my instruction. You two should bring the wolf and temporary leave the forest and return to my side.」

I have already ordered the familiar wolves for them to listen to Arisu and Tamaki's instructions. How much of their words can the gray wolves understand? Even though I felt some unease,

but they have been cooperating well with the wolves for now. They should be able to pass the instruction to the wolves successfully this time.

「Regarding the next battle.....」

I immediately continue to instruct everyone, according to what Shiki-san said, express myself with confidence, as though 「everything is in my predictions」.

「Arisu, Tamaki, wait until I leveled up, then I will use the remaining MP to strengthen you. Then I will leave the rest to you.」

「Okay, Kazu-san!」

「Mmm, leave it to me, Kazu-san!」

I nodded to the 2 of them, expressing 「very good」..... And after discussing the details with Mia, we left the white room.

Tamaki: Level 5 Sword Skill 3 / Physical 1 Skill Point 3

Mia: Level 5 Earth Magic 3 / Wind Magic 1 Skill Point 3

Chapter 32 – The Second Defensive Battle at the Cultivating Centre 3

Returning to the original place, Mia who left earlier came back immediately.

「Hehe.」

I carried Mia onto my shoulder and let her step on my shoulder to climb up the tree. Mia who does not seem to be good at sports, depended on «Physical Up» and climbed up the tree easily.

After Mia's hand touched a seemingly sturdy branch, then she stopped and looked down at me who is below her.

「As compared to a butt with bloomers, isn't it better to see the panties from under the skirt?」

「Enough, hurry and get up.」

There really isn't any sense of urgency. Ah, just take it that she is steady. But behaving like that, is also considered as pushing herself to a certain extent. Initially she went weak in the legs from just hearing the roar of the elite orc, how could she have not been afraid.

Even so, she still continued to fool around. I decided that her actions are sort of her way of putting up a front.

「Kazu-san, sorry for letting you wait.」

「We reached——！」

Arisu and Tamaki brought the wolves back respectively, and with this, the preparations are done.

Mia stood up on the sturdy branch and looked at the group of orcs.

「Where should I cast it on?」

「In the middle.」

「Hmm,『Earth Pit』, and another『Earth Pit』.」

Mia's hole digging magic caused the group near the centre of the orc group to sink in continuously.

The orcs frantically escaped into the left and right side of the forest.

「『Rampage Plant』」

Just at this moment, Mia used the Rank 3 Earth Magic
『Rampage Plant』at the left side of the forest

The woods around the orcs spreaded widely, the branches became as sharp as knife, stabbing deeply into the orcs' faces or bellies, spraying blue blood around. The falling leaves are like swords, slashing the orcs' body as they fall.

「Again,『Rampage Plant』。」

The forest on the right also started to cause the orcs to cry. The magic『Rampage Plant』is able to make the plants go crazy, becoming a vicious carnivore, attacking its surroundings indiscriminately.

『Rampage Plant』can only show its worth in a place with trees, hence it is able to demonstrate unmatchable power in this forest.

Just that the effective area is too big, causing other problems — that is our companions will also get attacked. This is different from a game, friendly fire is very possible, so I had Arisu and Tamaki return temporarily to avoid it.

And this magic will still cause accidents. In total about 3 orcs got out of the attack of the forest on the left and right side, covered in blood. Their frenzy actions, confirmed that I am the leader of the attack, and attacked here.....

「Arisu, Tamaki!」

The 2 person who acted as my bodyguards began moving, the sharp stab of the spear and the blow from the giant axe ended the lives of the 2 orc quickly, but the leftover one kept edging closer to me.....

A spear thrown from the shadow of the nearby tree pierced through the orc's heart, causing it to die immediately.

「Ah I leveled up.」

Shiki-san walked out of the forest, the one who threw the spear just now was her.

「Because Kazu-kun got targeted, so I could only act just in case.」

「Hmm, I got saved. Forget it, currently there is no need to save the white room, this should be fine right?」

「Indeed, raising my level is also ideal. But I did not plan on standing out.」

Even if she did not invoke the attack, the wolves will probably become my shield. Even so, Shiki-san still showed herself to protect me. Seems that she is a girl who usually worries and likes to take care of others.

「You seem to have something to say?」

Shiki-san seems to have read some of my thoughts from my attitude, and her eyes showed some sign of displease. Just as I was about to refute her.....

The level up message rang in my mind.

「Forget it, this represents that our relationship is to the extent that we can talk crap about each other.」

As long as she is around, the burden on me will be reduced by half, and I could also use more daring tactics.

In the white room.

I shrugged my shoulders at Arisu and the others.

「Arisu, Tamaki, the rest will be dependent on you.」

「Yes, I will attempt to answer to your expectations.」

「Umm, um, I will do my best.」

「..... Tamaki, you have just begin to feel afraid? Going to leak?」

「Really—— why do you have to say such words! Kazu-san, you really do not have any tact!」

Facing Tamaki who is blushing red with anger, I revealed a smile.

「Tamaki, the meaning of these words is that I believe in you.」

「Ah, argh, emm! I know, this time I will show you my good performance.」

Tamaki clenched her fist with a lot of strength, and then looked at me with a desiring look.

「What?」

「Th..that, I want touch touch.」

「Touch touch?」

「Argh, which is caressing my hair..... Is it possible?」

I nodded, and placed my hand on Tamaki's golden hair, caressing it roughly. She who usually have a noble aura, shrugged her shoulder lightly, and look up at me, then smiled with an embarrassed look.

「Got your spirit back?」

「Hmph, leave it to me. I will return in victory!」

I nodded, expressing 「good」.....

After confirming the strategy, I raised Support Magic to Rank 4.

Kazuhisa: Level 8 Support Magic 3 → 4 / Summon Magic 3 Skill Points 4 → 0

Raising Support Magic to Rank 4 is one of my aims. Because with ample time, I can achieve my target. After yesterday's earthquake, we have gained the power known as Skills, becoming able to go toe to toe with the orcs, and even achieve victory.

Just like in a RPG, with more battles, the stronger we will become.

But, the items that are naturally available in a single player game are not available to us.

That is weapons and armour that comes together with levels.

«Hard Weapon», «Hard Armour».

The effects of these 2 magic in Rank 4 Support magic, can let both weapons and armours obtain similar power up as the Skill Rank.

In other words, the spear that Arisu is using now will become『Iron Spear +1』.

It is fine for the weapons. Although I do not know what kind of changes will『Iron Spear +1』bring. Asking the computer also

only gave me vague replies like how the sharpness will increase.

The important point is regarding defensive gears. Arisu and the others are currently wearing gym clothes and bloomers, and from a game's point of view, the defense is nearly 0, at most at 1. Anyway, it is a gear with no defensive power.

Hence, I tried asking the computer in the white room on the increase in defensive power after gym clothes are casted with 『Hard Armour』.

Q: Gym clothes with 『Hard Armour』 will have how much defensive power?

A: No definite number.

Q: Arisu's chest suffered an attack from a rusty spear by an orc, and she is wearing gym clothes that are casted with Support Magic Rank 4 『Hard Armour』, then how serious will her injuries be?

A: The orc's spear will not be able to penetrate the gym clothes, and the impact power will be reduced by a portion. Depending on the situation, it may cause bruise.

When the computer replied, I could not help but tsukkomi—— wouldn't there be fractures! After repeating the questioning a

few times, I understood that it will feel like the magic absorbed the damage. This is really like the defensive ability in games.

Honestly speaking, as compared to Rank 3 Summon Magic, I wish to obtain Rank 4 Support Magic even more. After all as long as it is cast on my clothes, there will be some guarantees on my life.

But the hiccups that occurred in the battle at the girls' dormitory, caused me to prioritise summoning magic.....

Anyway the magic «Hard Armour» can allow me to get a defensive equipment that I can trust. Moreover once it is casted, the effect will stay forever.

After returning to the original place from the white room. I immediately called Arisu and Tamaki, and cast «Hard Armour» on their gym clothes and «Hard Weapon» on their weapons.

Actually I also want to cast «Hard Armour» on their bloomers, but after exhausting 16 MP at once, my MP is nearly empty. The leftover amount is only enough to cast «Reflection» once, which I want to use it as my trump card.

「This time we will not use «Haste», and try to defeat the small fries orcs first.」

For the sake of letting Arisu and Tamaki level up, we need to defeat 10 more orcs first. With another level, their weapon skill will be raised to Rank 4.

With the power of «Hard Weapon» and «Hard Armour», then they will be able to go toe to toe with the elite orcs and even surpass them..... that will be good if it is so.

No, I cannot cower. I tried to act confident as much as possible, and told them『I will depend on the 2 of you, but don't push yourself』, and they nodded energetically.

『Go!』

I touched Tamaki's head and Arisu's butt, and sent them to the battlefield. Your hand—— Arisu raised her head and looked at me with a troubled face, while I smiled to cover it up.

『Really—— I will have a nice talk with Kazu-san later!』

『Kazu-san is really pervertic.』

Arisu puffed her cheeks in anger while Tamaki smirked, and then they disappeared into the left and right side of the forest respectively.

『Pervert.』

Not knowing when she climbed down, Mia stood beside with her eyes in slits, staring at me.

Okay, with this I did what can be done. I will depend on everyone for the rest and leave it to fate.

「Mia, the effect of 『Rampage Plant』.....」

「It has ended, do I have to increase the support?」

「No, you should keep the MP for casting 3 『Heat Metal』.」

Mia answered with a 「mmm」, and then suddenly stretched out her hands.

「What?」

「The view here is indeed very bad. I want to climb up a tree, help me.」

「Since that is so, then don't deliberately climb down.」

I lent my shoulder again, and let her climb up the tree in front of us.

「You can take the chance to touch my butt as much as possible, it is fine.」

「Okay okay okay.」

「If it is just the meat, I will not lose to Arisu.」

「Yours are fats!」

Moreover Arisu's butt is very bouncy, with a smooth skin, and when you touch it, it will give out a very nice sound.....

「Ah.」

While Mia is climbing, she unconsciously looked in the direction of the orcs and stopped. I was wondering what happened, and looked over as well..... Then I realised that the orc group became more chaotic and kept on giving out shrieks periodically.

「The 2 of them rushed into the centre.」

「Oi, is that real? I already told them not to be reckless.....」

I maintained the posture of supporting Mia's butt with both of my hands, and frowned.

「Okay, you better climb up faster.」

「Now it is just exciting, Tamaki-senpai did a big spin with the giant axe. Wah, it's damn cool.」

Ah, oi, damn, don't give such a vivid announcement. I quickly pushed Mia up the tree, and climbed up a nearby tree myself.

I looked down from the tree, seeing the orc group in a state of chaos, not knowing what to do.

Arisu and Tamaki surrounded the orcs from 2 sides, killing them when they see them, their battle forms felt as though they were like Ashura. As for the frontline, the orcs in front are still being pushed into the hole by the orcs behind, and the 3 girls with the spear are giving them the fatal blow when they saw a chance.

Other than that, that the rear of the orc group, due to the confusion, the orcs that are planning to escape are all kicked away by the bronze coloured orc. The panicking orcs could only head towards the direction where Arisu and Tamaki are at.

「I see, I had wanted to say that since they had suffered such a great loss, so why aren't they retreating—— so the elite orcs are acting like the Soviet army huh?」

「Eh, Leader, what is going on?」

The girl on the tree beside me, heard my mumbling and asked. I explained it to her that I read a passage in a certain book in

simple terms, the content is regarding Soviet and Chinese Army—the commander team will point their rifles at their troops, forcing them to charge forward. In short, it is very brutal.

「I felt that these orcs are really pitiful.」

「Even so, if we gave them mercy, the ones to die would be us.」

「That..... is right.」

The girl laughed bitterly. Forget it, it is not that I can't understand her feelings.

But on a hand she is saying 「they are really pitiful」, on the other hand, she is casting fireball magic mercilessly, burning the orcs in the middle to her desire. The girl's magic became the best support and as the surrounding orcs sunk into chaos, Arisu killed them one by one.

「Okay.」

Mia lightly said. I see, so it has already reached 10.

As expected, I was sent to the white room in the next second.

Chapter 33 – The Second Defensive Battle at the Cultivating Centre 4

Arisu, Tamaki and Mia, the 3 of them leveled up together. They each raise their own Skill Rank, for Arisu, it's Spear Skill, Tamaki is Sword Skill, and Mia is Earth Magic.

As a whole, the result is as such:

Arisu: Level 8 Spear Skill 3 → 4 / Healing Magic 3 Skill Point 4 → 0

Tamaki: Level 6 Sword Skill 3 → 4 / Physical 1 Skill Point 5 → 1

Mia: Level 6 Earth Magic 3 → 4 / Wind Magic 1 Skill Point 5 → 1

Even though Mia can choose to raise Wind Magic, but I feel that she should prioritise Earth Magic. Her MP like mine, nearly depleted, hence even though she can only raise the effect of «Heat Metal» by a bit, I judged that it is the best way to bet the chance of victory.

Considering the future, having the convenient Wind Magic is indeed attractive..... But now we have to concentrate our power and survive the next few minutes.

「Although your Weapon Skill are now Rank 4, but this time I do not have the power to cast «Haste».」

I made a final confirmation with Arisu and Tamaki who are in front of me.

「The battle this time will perhaps be even more intense than the past. Until now, did you suffer any injuries?」

「Yes, I am fine.」

「No problem, thanks to Kazu-san's «Hard Armour».」

After asking, I realise that gym clothes with『+1』will reflect all the attacks that has caused injuries. Even if the orcs ram them, it seems that they will not suffer any sort of impact.

The 2 of them expressed in a bit of excitement that the sharpness of『Iron Spear +1』and『Giant Axe +1』are incomparable to the past.

The strike from the spear pierces through the orc's body easily, and the axe's strike split the orc's body easily into halves, the feeling is as though they have become completely different weapons.

「Actually, it is probably not the same item.」

I had considered it in same game terms. Weapon and Armour + 1 is just my way of calling them, perhaps the changes between them could have been from『rod』to『iron sword』, or it could have been Rank changes like『leather armour』to『holy armour』.

And according to the Q & A I had with the computer——

If my support magic's rank rises, the weapon and armour effects caused by the magic will also increase. Hence, every time my support magic raises its rank, there is a need to re cast them for Arisu and Tamaki.

Forget it, these are all in the future. The most important thing now, is to instruct them on how to face the current threat.

「This time the opponent is 3 elite orcs, do not fight with them at the same time. Follow what I taught you, separate the opponents and finish them off 1 by 1.」

「Kazu-san worries too much!」

I glared at Tamaki while squinting my eyes, she gave a「mmm」sound, and backed off as long she was pushed by my aura. Really, what kind of words are this girl, who had just leaked just a while ago, saying.

「I do not wish to bring out someone's failure as discussion repeatedly, but since they concerns your life, I could only deliberately remind you again.」

「Ah, wait, I know, I know! I will obey orders carefully!」

Tamaki panickedly waved her hands around, and her pigtail also moved around. Really, what should I do with her.

「As for Arisu..... Although I am not worried for you, but please do not force yourself.」

「Yes!」

Arisu nodded with a face of seriousness. Ah, Arisu is so honest and cute, such a good girl.

「Mia..」

Finally I turn towards the most petite girl.

「Follow the plan, your role is only to cast 『Heat Metal』..... But if you feel that the 2 of them is in danger, then do not save your MP, and cast magic to help them, do as the situation calls for.」

「Mmm!」

Mia expressed a strong nodding in her own way. I said「okay」, and then looked at everyone.....

「Then please rank up.」

We returned to the original place, and head towards the final battle place.

◆◆◆



When I returned to the tree from the white room, the situation at the orcs seemed to have changes at the same time.

The orcs finally gave up, beginning to ignore the elite orcs' instructions, escaping all around.

Some escaped into the forest; some tried to pass the elite orcs, but they are cut into shreds; some gave up and tried to pass the frontline, only to get stab through.

In the hell like scene of shrieks and cries, Arisu and Tamaki calmly continue to observe the prey before their eyes.

This is fine, get rid of the small fries first, then open a path to the elite orcs.

Their Weapon Skills are raised to Rank 4, and they are getting familiar with their weapons, and their movements are more agile.

This is good, if it's like this, even if they meet with the elite orcs.....

At this moment, a roar that could freeze a person's body came from deep inside the enemy's camp.

It's the elite orcs' roar.

And it is a roar by the 3 of them at the same time.

Luckily none of them are scared by it, not wasting the MP that I had spent to cast «Clear Mind» on everyone except for Arisu.

Judging from our level, Arisu and I should be able to handle it.....

Just as I expected, the elite orcs' roar rang in my ears, and I could only feel it as being noisy.

As for Arisu, she is mercilessly attacking the orcs who had stopped due to the roar, concentrating on killing. Arisu has become a merciless killing machine, her growth is indeed excellent.

Some fellow suddenly got closer to Arisu.

Because the orcs are escaping, the group became less dense, creating a route between Arisu and the elite orcs.

An elite orc is rushing toward Arisu.

「Arisu, it's coming!」

I shouted out. But before my voice could reach, she had already turned and dashed into the forest. Very good, she is able to notice the situation around her.

The elite orc chased Arisu into the forest, everything was just as I had planned.

The other elite orc indeed also entered the forest to chase after Tamaki.

Arisu and Tamaki killed too many orcs, and hence became too obvious. In the orcs' eyes, they would have felt that they should take actions to defeat the 2 of them first.

The strategy was effective.

「Mia, Shiki-san, I will count on you.」

「Mmmmm.」

「Understood, leave it to me.」

Mia jumped down from the tree, and ran out with Shiki-san.

Our strategy is—— Shiki-san will find Arisu and Tamaki in the forest, and Mia will cast 『Heat Metal』 to make the elite orcs drop their weapons.

Okay, the problem is now about the last elite orc that is roaming around freely.....

The road forward is blocked by the escaping orcs.

But it could still pass through the left and right side of the forest.

Will this fellow go after Arisu or Tamaki? I must decide the next strategy based on its decision.....

Just as I was thinking about it, that elite orc rush directly forward.

Huh? It is using its giant axe to kill the escaping orcs, shortening the distance between it and my camp. Argh, even if it kills its companions, it also wants to proceed forward!

Shit. A chill went down my spine, this forceful tactic was out of my expectations. No, they have already did something like this, I should have expected that the situation will become like this.

To these fellows, the lives of their companions are just pawns to be thrown away.

This matter should be incorporated into the planning as well. Shiki-san and I did not expect them to be so crazy, we are too naive.

「Hurry up and escape!」

I shouted to the 3 girls who are ready with their spears across the trap.

Once they escape, me who is nearby on the tree will be in danger. But I still shouted out in reflex.

After shouting, then I realised this, but it's too late. But.....

The girls who are ready with their spears did not escape, and remained firmly on the spot, waiting for the elite orc who was nearing the hole.

Their Spear Skill Rank is only 2, even Arisu who has Rank 3 Skill could barely handle it. Just Rank 2, even if there are 3 of them.....

「We will protect you!」

One of them called out, she is the one who delivered the onigiri.

「We will protect Kazu-san! Please take the chance to escape!」

Huh? I was shocked. Protect? They want to protect me?

Why? As long as Arisu, Tamaki and Mia is around, then there is a way to defeat this elite orc. Other than me, there is still Shiki-

san who can communicate and command.

「Didn't Kazu-san save us yesterday? So this time it's time for us to help Kazu-san!」

Ah, I suddenly realised.

They felt that I was a hero, and believed in me. Thanks to Arisu and Shiki-san's hidden movement, their valuation of me is extremely high.

Such a stupid group of girls, how can I be such a noble person. I am only a failure, an outsider who cannot fit into the high school.

Anyway, I can't stay on the tree, there is no room to escape.

I jumped down from the tree, landing a few steps away from the girls. The impact from the landing, caused me to roll on the ground. I quickly got up, and discovered that the elite orc had already arrived at the hole, preparing to jump.

The bronze-coloured orc jump high up, and raise its axe in mid-air. The gigantic axe is aimed at the girl's head who said that she will protect me, and it was swung down.

I want to use the last reminder amount of MP to cast 『Reflection』.....

But I can't, because this magic could only be used on one's party, so it can't be used to save her.

The girl did not retreat at all, and gave a strong stab. The sharp end of the spear stabbed into the abdomen of the elite orc, but the bronze-coloured orc did not give a flinch. It used the momentum of the jump and swung its gigantic axe.

The girl's body became halves.

Blood gushed out like a fountain, what was once the girl's body fell left and right. The hands which once made onigiri for me, reached out powerlessly towards the sky, before falling on the ground.

The blood sprayed over the vicious face of the elite orc.

I stared blankly at that scene. The tragedy that happened before me, left me immobilized, only feeling numb in my brain.

The elite orc burst in the laughter brutally.

Chapter 34 – The Second Defensive Battle at the Cultivating Centre 5

The girl who listened to my command, died in front of me.

It's my mistake.

I have subconsciously, used a game's thinking to consider things.

I had felt that, as long as the orcs remain in chaos and caused a jam, the elite orcs will not be able to come forward.

I forgot how violent and brutal the elite orcs are.

Because of this mistake, my companion died.

And the elite orc is currently in a state whereby it could move freely.

Arisu and Tamaki are currently at a faraway place fighting with the other elite orcs, and Mia is busy supporting them.

The bronze-coloured orc who cut the girl into halves, is currently kneeling down at a place which is a few steps from me.

It stood up, and looked at the girls at its sides.

「How dare you!」

The 2 girls left kept stabbing in rage. No, that sort of weak attack can't even harm that thick skin of the elite orc.

Just exactly how strong is the orc that Arisu and Tamaki have been facing? The truth is clearly shown before me now.

I felt that the flow of time have become slow.

Attacking randomly is too dangerous, the opponent will take the chance to retaliate in the time frame after they attacked. If their heads are chopped off, then everything will end.

But I can perhaps escape from the time that they bought. If I turn and escape now, perhaps I can survive.

There are still 2 familiar wolves by my side, if I use the 2 of them as shields for a few seconds, they could also buy me a bit of time.

And while I am moving, Arisu, Tamaki and Mia should return after defeating the elite orc. Then they can defeat this guy after that.

But in that interval, the girls fighting now could be killed.....

But we can survive. Me, Arisu, Tamaki and Mia, and even Shiki-san can survive.

Thinking of the big picture, this is the best method.

If I calculate the risks and benefits, this method is the most

suitable.

So, I ordered the 2 wolves.

「Go! Protect them carefully!」

The wolves indeed followed my orders and moved.....

They rammed the girls' bodies.

The 2 wolves used their bodies to press on the 2 girls who are holding the spears.

「Ah.....w.....why?」

The 2 girls with spears looked speechlessly at me.

This moment, the elite orc's gigantic axe swept past their heads.

If they are not pushed down by the wolves, the girls would have lost their lives. The 2 of them will be cut into halves from their middle of their bodies.

I relaxed.

While I relaxed, I thought in my heart—— why?

Why didn't I take the chance to run? Why did I save them?

I actually knew the answer clearly. I raised my head and glared at the elite orc, staring straight into that evil red pupils.

That's right, I have already developed feelings for them.

I felt sorrow for the girl who died, and strongly blamed myself for not protecting her well, because I felt that I have the responsibility for protecting their lives.

Now then I realise the meaning in the words that Shiki-san had said. She advised me to not treat my companion's death as my responsibility, and that she will take on all these burden, so all I need to do is to treat them as pawns.

If I did not do so, my mind will perhaps collapse.

Thank you, Shiki-san.

Eat shit.

I stood up and glared at the elite orc.

This beast—— I glared at this violent murderer.

「Come at me, you damn pig!」

I don't know if the elite orc could understand my shouting, but it seem to have at least taken it as a challenge. Only seeing it roar in anger, getting closer to me.

Fireball and knives flew out from trees, attacking this elite orc.

The support from my companions are useless. Even if the elite orc is hit by fireballs in the stomach, its footsteps did not even stagger; the small knives that are thrown at his shoulders are also deflected off easily by its skin.

「That's right, come here!」

I dashed out while back facing the elite orc. Luckily I had casted «Physical Up» on my legs first. Anyway I need to buy as much time as possible.

At this moment——

I turned my sight to the entrance of the Cultivating Centre, and noticed that the door is opened. Someone walked out from inside, it's one of the girls that we have saved from the girls' dormitory.

The girl saw me and the elite orc that was chasing me, and was so scared until she stood at the spot.

Shit, if I ran over like this, I will involve her. I quickly stopped

my steps, and jumped a few steps forward.

Then, a chill suddenly went down my back.

I quickly turned, and witnessed the moment that the elite orc threw its giant axe at me.

「《Reflection》！」

I immediately called out.

The giant axe that was approaching my face, met with an unseeable wall.

The axe was reflected by that wall, flying back at the one who threw it.

The giant axe cut into the elite orc's face, hitting its left eye, and blue blood gushed out like a spring. Did it succeed.....?

The elite orc gave out an angry howl.

It pulled out the axe, and swung it strongly.

Just the wind pressure is enough to blow me away. No, that did not cause any lethal injuries to it.

This fellow is too strong, the difference in our power is too big.

Other than Arisu and Tamaki, what other methods could be used to handle this monster?

And the elite orc got closer to me, only mindlessly swinging its axe. This fellow.....can't see in its right eye?

Looking at it carefully, I noticed that its right eye is closed. Did it get contaminated with the blood that sprayed out? But what should I do? How should I attack this crazy axe swinging fellow.....

Suddenly the randomly swinging axe coincidentally swung past a location near me, causing me to take a step back.....

Hearing the sound of me stepping on the grass, the elite orc turned over suddenly.

Shit—— cold sweat covered my back, it had indeed captured my location.

The elite orc raised its giant axe, preparing to swing it and.....

A chain flew out from the forest nearby, entangling the elite orc's legs. Looking at it carefully, Shiki-san showed her face slightly from the shadows of the tree.

「Great, this move is also considered as within the Throwing Skill.」

Shiki-san pulled at the chain strongly, causing the elite orc to lose its balance and fall. I stood there blankly, feeling completely dumb-folded.....

「Kazu-kun! Steady yourself!」

Hearing Shiki-san's scolding, I regain my sanity. I gave the 2 gray wolves commands and they lunge at the elite orc together.

「Attack the hand that is holding the axe! If it's possible, bring the axe over!」

One of the wolves bit apart the struggling orc's finger, and the other used its mouth to bite on the handle of the giant axe, and dragged the axe over to me.

Because of the need when digging holes just now, so I had cast 『Mighty Arm』 on my body, and the time has yet to reach an hour.

After I looked at the giant axe for a while..... I picked with great determination.

「Wait, Kazu-kun! Let me.....」

「Don't come here, Shiki-san.」

It's heavy, but if it is just swinging it, I can still manage it.

「This will be done by me, please let me do it.」

「Kazu.....kun.....」

Hearing Shiki-san's voice, I understood—— she probably knows what had happened in the frontline.

Did she see it? Or did she deduced it?

Anyway is fine, she felt that I was in danger and came to save me. Even now she is struggling to salvage my mistake, that is what I can't do.

Thank you, but this is my job.

The revenge must be done by me, if not I will not be able to forgive myself.

No, even if I did such a thing, I also do not feel that I will be forgiven. But I still have to do it.

1 step, 2 step, I walked closer to the elite orc that was still struggling.

The distance is just right. I gave a roar and swung my axe down.

The strength I displayed was extremely weak, it was simply shitty. But thanks to the weight of the axe, it still managed to become a strong blow.

And my luck was good, this blow happened to land on the neck of the elite orc.

The bronze coloured head flew up like a round ball, and then landed on the ground, rolling on the grass.

「Defeated..... it.」

I sat blankly on the ground, feeling that my strength is gradually seeping out from my body.

The cheers entered my ears, looking at them carefully, the girls on the trees are cheering for me.

「Well done.」

Shiki-san came to my side and said to me in a small voice.

Chapter 35 – Aftermath

Seeing the elite orc who was the leader being defeated, the other orcs escaped in the confusion. The girls in the support party also chased closely behind, defeating them one by one for their companion's revenge. This is a big chance for leveling up, hence I also let them kill the orcs on the premise that they

will not chase them too deeply in.

Arisu and Tamaki should have also successfully defeated the elite orcs. With Mia's support, I feel that there should not be any problem.....

At this moment, Tamaki and Mia suddenly poke their head of the forest.

「It has ended over here. Kazu-san, we will go over to Arisu next.....」

The moment the 2 of them looked at my face, they were so shocked that they could not say anything. Ah, is the expression on my face that bad? No, like this I could not qualified to be a commander.

「I will understand what happened here first, the 2 of you should go and support Arisu first.」

「Mmm, mmm, Shiki-san we understand.」

Tamaki and Mia looked worriedly, before turning away and moving out. Luckily, they don not seemed to have noticed the tragic scene near the trap. Mmm, it is better to not look at it. No matter if it is sorrow or condolences, they have to wait until the battle has ended.

「Kazu-kun, you should take a break.」

「That isn't good.」

「Listen.」

I was glared at by Shiki-san. Ah, damn, I am really useless. I signed and lowered my shoulders. At this timing, the sound of leveling up sounded.

I see, it was smooth on Arisu's side.

In the white room, Arisu and the others looked at me with faces of worry.

「Kazu-san, what happened?」

Arisu asked, so I told her the news of the death of our companion.

The 3 girls swallow their saliva, and looked at me.

「Is that so.....Akane-chan.....」

Tamaki said.

「Her name is called Akane?」

「Mmm, Shimoyamada Akane-chan. She is from the cooking society, and had once made a bento beside me and Arisu, saying it's for her boyfriend, and she did it with vigor.....」

Is that so—— I nodded.

Until now, I noticed that I do not even know her name.

What kind of feeling did she have when she was making the onigiri? She must be worried about the situation that her lover is in. In the situation of despair, she still had traces of hope, thinking that we could perhaps save her lover?

But, wouldn't dying as a shield be defeating that purpose?
Because she would not be able to see her boyfriend anymore.

I sat on the floor of the white room, powerlessly.

I lifted my thighs, lowered my head and sighed.

Ah, what am I doing.

I had to encourage everyone, and why am I showing my depressed state in front of the 3 of them? Didn't I promise to Shiki-san that I will be strong?

That's right, Shiki-san had said so that time—— even if our companions die, it is all her responsibility, and that I do not

have to feel responsible for that.

How can that be.

I will definitely mind it, after all I was the one who caused her death. I bit my lips tightly, to the extent that blood flowed, and the taste of iron was felt in my mouth.

If I gave my body more pain, will I feel better? I thought so.

I clenched my fist. What am I saying? What am I doing.

This moment, I was hugged tightly by someone.

And it's not only one but 3. They came from the front and my sides and hugged me tightly.

I can feel that warmth of their bodies, as well as their sweat, and their breaths are blowing on me, even their heartbeat were transmitted.

Raising my head, I discovered Arisu's face was in the middle and the left and right were Mia and Tamaki. (TL note: the author finally placed Mia's name first!!!!)

「Kazu-san is not alone.」

Arisu said so.

「Yes, Kazu-san, did you comfort me that like too? So now it is our turn to comfort you.」

「Mmm.」

They revealed a smile with enough warmth to encompass me, and a serious expression.

「To go through both happiness and pain, that is a companion.」

「Mia.....」

「A certain manga said so.」

A good atmosphere was spoilt by this fellow.

「Kazu-chi, a guy do not have work so hard, occasionally revealing a weak side is cool.」

「Oi.」

I glared at Mia, this petite girl answered with a 「mmm」 like a proper lady, and nodded..... then lightly kissed my forehead.

「Mmm.」

「.....Argh.」

「This is a kiss to console a desolated guy.」

Mia blushed, and looked at me straight. Her eyes are very serious, she is really worried about me.

I stole a glance at Arisu. Arisu used both her hands to hold my face, and locked my head in place. Then she came forward and our lips overlapped with each other. A short kiss, and Arisu revealed a grin.

「Come, Tamaki too.」

「Eh, but Arisu——」

「This is just everyone consoling Kazu-san only.」

I looked at Tamaki. Tamaki played with her golden hair strands and lowered her head shyly. Then she locked eyes with me as though she had some sort of determination.

「..... I am going console you.」

「Oh, okay.」

Tamaki kissed my cheek.

「Ah, such a boring kiss.」

Mia smirked to taunt at Tamaki, causing her to shout out while blushing:「I..it's fine! The lips are for Arisu!」. That look was really cute, I could not help but laugh.

「Mmm, finally smiled.」

「Yes, it was all of you who made me smile, thanks.」

「Mmm.」

Without a sense of urgency, fatigue came in, The warmth from their bodies, made me feel very peaceful.

I caressed Mia and Tamaki's hair, and both squinted their eyes, as though it is very comfortable.

「Arisu, I also want to thank you.」

「Yes..... This, ah, but.....」

「Huh?」

Arisu hesitated for a while and looked at me before speaking:

「Kazu-san, you...your survival is the most happy thing for me.」

「Ah, mm, I will do my best.」

「Please do not die.」

「Well, I also do not wish to die.」

Is it because she saw that I was depressed so she is worried? No, the feeling is a bit different. I quietly looked at Arisu's obsidian-like pupils, and her sights are swaying, as though she can't calm down.

「Please remember this, as long as Kazu-san is alive, then I will feel very fortunate.」

Kazuhisa: Level 9 Support Magic 4 / Summon Magic 3 Skill Points 3

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Returning back to the original place, I left the role of exterminating the leftover orcs to my other companions and looked at the person who came out from the Cultivating Centre.

It's the girl who had a pony tail. Ah, then the girl who spoke to me at the girls' dormitory is also her.

「Sorry, I had interfered with your battle just now.」

The girl lowered her head, it seems she isn't afraid, but yet I am unable to feel other strong emotions from her. But her looks does not seem to have shown that she had let it go.

The girl raised her head.

「I wish to see the looks of orcs being killed. They made us go through such a scary experience, so I wish to see the looks of these fellows dying.」

The girl lightly mentioned it, and her clenched fist is shaking.

「Thanks to all of you, I saw a very happy scene.」

「I.. I see.」

「But I wish to see more orcs die.」

The girl used an emotionless tone to say that, and that pair of black eyes that contains a deep darkness penetrated me.

「Please let me level up.」

Mmm, this wish is just as what I had wanted. If it's now, it should be easy to restrain the escaping orcs.

「If there are others like you and can move immediately.....」

The pony-tailed girl turned back and waved to the other girls hiding inside the inner side of the main door at the Cultivating Centre.

Including her, there are 4 person.

「I understand, all of you should take the bamboo spears—— do you know what is that? It is that which is beside the main door, then come with me. If you can lift the iron spears, then you can take those too. Argh, it is better to have Arisu too.....」

At this moment, I am transferred to the white room again, so it was Tamaki and Mia who leveled up.

「It came at the right time!」

Seeing the happy emotion that was different from a few minutes ago, Arisu and the others looked at each other while puzzled.

「Nothing. Erm, Arisu, Tamaki and Mia, I have something I want you to help with.」

Hence I asked Arisu to help the girls whom we have rescued from the girls' dormitory to level up. And to let Mia raise Wind Magic to Rank 2.

「Increasing the variety of our tactics is better.」

She expressed so and I also agreed with that thinking.

Tamaki: Level 7 Sword Skill 4 / Physical 1 Skill Point 3

Mia: Level 7 Earth Magic 4 / Wind Magic 1 → 2 Skill Point 3 → 1

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Leveling up the girls who just came to the Cultivating Centre was easier than I had expected.

After all they have extreme hatred towards the orcs, hence when using the bamboo spear to stab at the enemies, they showed no signs of hesitation.

When the extermination battle ended, the 4 of them are raised to level 1.

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The battle ended. The orcs are all escaping, and there is no signs of any enemies near the surroundings of the Cultivating Centre. Suffering such a brutal defeat, will they gather their companions again to attack?

Even if they will come again, I feel that it will not be today, although this is merely a wishful thinking of mine.

Shiki-san judged that there should not be any orcs going to report.

「Reporting such a tragic ending to the commander, will they still be alive? I guess they will pretend that they don't know, and then escape to a place where the commanders cannot find them.」

From how the elite orcs commanded, perhaps the result is like how she mentioned. Even though their ruling is not like an army, but from the actions of those orcs until now, it indeed has that possibility.

No matter what, even if the enemies come now, we are unable to battle. Everyone is extremely tired, and I am also too exhausted, wanting to just collapse and rest.

But before that, I have something I need to finish.

「I wish to make a grave for Shimoyamada Akane-san.」

Everyone expressed their will to help.

But I rejected.

「If there are others who died in the future, I will depend on you all, but this time, just let me do it.」

Shiki-san stared at me as though wanting to say something, and finally just said 「I understand」, and then turned away.

「Then just do it until you are happy.」

I went to the back of the Cultivating Centre and dug the grave alone. Arisu, Tamaki and Mia placed the pieces of the corpse in a bucket and brought it over.

「Shiki-senpai called us 3 to come and help.」

「I see.」

I could understand her thinking, she wants to use my emotions as a way to strengthen the relationship of this elite party.

Damn. But at the same time, I also felt that this plan is really good.

I am angry at her actions but at the same time I admired her leadership.

The contradiction in my heart, caused me to groan out.

Then the 3 girl placed their hands on mine.

「Let me say this again, Kazu-san you are not alone.」

Arisu said so on behalf of all 3 of them, and my tears could not help but flow out.

Chapter 36 – Main School Building of the Middle School Selection

The time is now at noon.

We decided to rest a while, although an afternoon nap sounds very relaxing, but everyone is actually too tired.

After the two Year 1 students returned to the Cultivating Centre, they collapsed in the lounge.

The 2 surviving frontliners brought a change of gym clothings and panties and entered the toilet quickly.

Everyone treated it as though they did not see it, it is really heart-warming.

But Mia still happily told me about this. This girl seemed to be more energetic than the others, I don't know if it is because of the level up so her endurance also got increased. But after all she had been brought around, so she is still a bit unstable when walking.

「So smelly, the 2 of them are so scared until they shitted.」

This girl is really a rascal.

I felt that the situation when the elite orc is approaching and that a companion, who has been fight alongside you, is splitted into 2, just being able to maintain conscious is already pretty impressive. Is this the effect of «Clear Mind»? If that is so, then it has not been a waste of my MP to cast them.

One of our companions died.

But everyone is quieter than I had expected. Even though they are sad, but the only one minding our companion's death is only me.

Thinking about it carefully, this is natural. The people who went to the girls' dormitory have all seen the tragic deaths of their friends, even if they didn't see them, they also went through a lot yesterday.

Have their tears dried? Or is it simply that they have gotten used to people dying? No matter what, the feelings that are gradually being numbed is also a fortunate thing.

I feel that it is a good thing that everyone is not shocked by a person's death. If they mind it too much, they will fall sick mentally soon.

Afterall, we are surrounded by too many deaths.

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I am also exhausted. Actually now we should be concentrating on scouting or being alert, but I no longer have the strength to mind such things.

「During this timing, we will be staying guard, please rest well.」

The pony-tailed girl called Nagatsuki Sakura said so.

「But, all of you should be tired?」

「When we are being raped by the orcs, we are all half-awake.」

When she said these words, her emotions did not change, causing me to not know if it is true, or just a low level joke. But I chose to accept their kind intentions now.

After all the members of the support party are all first-timers in the battle, and they should have long passed their limits. The girls are lying in the lounge not caring about their image, that is what I thought as I looked down from the balcony on level 2.

The person who exhausted them to this state is me, and there is someone who is sacrificed.

Shimoyamada-san, her death is my responsibility, and I will gladly accept all these.

From now on, there could others who will die and those are all my responsibility.

But I am not alone, there is Arisu, Tamaki and Mia, and Shiki-san will also split the responsibility with me.

I must endure, and learn to split responsibility and live with everyone, then I will be able to repay Shimoyamada-san who died for me.

I must go and do what I can do.

Luckily, I got a strong magic from the battle just now—— Rank 4 Support Magic «Hard Weapon»and «Hard Armour», I am going use them to strengthen everyone's weapon and defensive equipment.

If possible, I wish to strengthen everyone's gym clothes and bloomers. Other than that, I also wish to strengthen some hats.

I raised it up to Shiki-san and was retorted immediately.

She brought me to a room on level 3 and then locked the door.

We are alone in the room. Shiki-san wanted me to sit on the

bed while she herself sat on the chair and crossed her legs, then arrogantly raised her chin.

「You actually thought of casting magic on everyone, how long do you think it will take? Including the 4 who just level up to level 1, there is a total of 8 vanguards. Among them, you just have to enhance Arisu and Tamaki's set of clothes and hats, even gloves too. The others just enhance the gym clothes, for the rearguard there is no need to enhance anything, except for you and Mia.」

But—— I protested, and Shiki-san shook her head.

「Listen carefully, Kazu-kun. We are not equal, among the members, there are some who can die and some who definitely cannot die. The 4 persons in the elite party cannot die, especially you. You are everyone's hope, there is no one that can replace you.」

「You mean that Shimoyamada-san is replaceable?」

「Mmm, that's right.」

Shiki-san said it in a calm tone and then gave a cold laugh. She has expressed herself as though she is the antagonist, even though she is not well-versed in acting, she still tried to be like a demon queen.

But the fist that she is clenching is still shaking. That pair of eye stared at me, the feeling is sorrowful yet lonely. This person is not suitable as an actress.

「Even though it's a pity, but both you and I are special. We are different from Shimoyamada-san, we cannot die to escape from all these. If anyone of us dies, we will be leaderless. Using other people as bait, struggle to survive, even if disabled, we must also survive—— this is what a leader should do.」

She loved to talk to me about such irritating and horrifying stuff. Such depressing stories to make my heart timid.

But now I understand, this is her sincerity. I am not alone. Shiki-san also means that she, too holds the preparation to take on the deaths of her companions.

This is really stupid, she likes to push herself even more as compared to me.

「Kazu-kun, if Arisu is necessary to you, then to let her survive, you must do your utmost to invest in her, even if it decrease the resources that are given to us.」

「Do you feel that this is fine?」

「I am fine with anything.」

Shiki-san smiled.

「I have already decided not to run. No matter what kind of difficulty, I will do my best to resist. Even if I am hated.」

「Even if I disagree?」

「I will convince you.」

「Even if I guard against Shiki-san, will you be able to convince me?」

「Well, if it is difficult face to face, then I will link up with Arisu first. If that does not work, then I will cry to Tamaki. Mia is smart, so I think that she will agree with my thinking.....」

My instincts tells me—— that this person is dangerous. No, I knew this since the beginning.

She is a bad girl. If I want to escape from her, perhaps I can only end her life.

Shiki Yukariko this girl knows that as long as Arisu is around, I will not take such reckless actions. Because there is the safety called Arisu, she is able to be honest with me on all these stuff.

「Mmm, anyway that will be like this.」

Shiki-san stood up after finishing, and looked at me rebelliously.

「You are not allowed to die, Kazu-kun. You cannot break down too. If you feel upset, then rely on Arisu or me. No matter how ridiculous, it is fine. As long as you feel there is a need, just tell me. I will think of something.」

If there is a need..... I revealed a bitter smile.

If I say I need a woman, she will definitely offer me her body. Maybe she will even add in a sentence:「Do you think that I do not have this level of awareness?」

Even if I expressed that I want a companion's body, no matter who, she will go and convince the other party. Ah ah, this girl is really.....

Eat shit.

Mmm, how should I say it—— I finally found a word that is very suited for her.

「You are really manly.」



Shiki-san revealed a bitter expression as though she ate something bitter.

Good, I got back at her. I clenched my fist.

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My current level is 9, 9 MP will be recovered for every 10 minutes, to fully recover, I will need 1 hour and 40 minutes.

In the time while waiting for MP to recover, I sent the crow out to scout, while I lie in the room on level 3. Shiki-san is sitting on the chair nearby, with both her hands around her chest, looking at me like that.

«Summon Raven» requires 1 MP, «Remote Viewing» need 3 MP. With all these calculated inside, I cast «Remote Viewing» on the crow that flew off.

First is the main building of the Middle School Section. I had verified with my eyes that this is our real aim—— the place where the orcs are gathered. Just now the orc army that marched to the Cultivating Centre also came from the direction of the main building. We should have decreased quite a bit of their fighting force, but.....

The premise of the school building has about 30 orcs currently, and there is a campfire in the middle of the

schoolyard.

The ones burning inside are humans. The orcs seem have used the corpses as firewood, then cheered around the surrounding, as though they are doing some ceremony.

I bit my lips tightly when I am surveying the scene. The crow will not hesitate because of my emotions, it flew around in the air and then entered the main school building to scout.

The building has a total of 3 floors. The windows at the level 1 classrooms are all broken, and it was done from the outside. The orcs seems to have broke the glass windows and entered from there.

Although that time school had ended, many students seemed to have stayed in the school. I saw many corpses of the teachers which had their head splitted apart by axes, and there are still naked bodies of the girls being raped by the orcs. They are completely powerless, not even moving.

The crows surveyed on the level 2 and 3, including the interior. Occasionally I can see bronze colored orcs mixed within the small fry orcs. In the main school building, there are perhaps 7, 8 elite orcs.

From the situation, there could be close to 10. This number is too many, enough to make me despair.

Then its level 3, the deepest part on this level is the music classroom, the sturdy door of the classroom is opened.

The crow sneakily peeked into the classroom, inside there is only an exceptionally big black colored orc. In its hand is a shiny silver sword and it's covered with a golden cape, sitting firmly on the piano, looking lazily at its subordinates that are servicing him.

General orc—— such a word floated in my mind. Even if it is not called this name, it should not be too far away. That orc indeed have the air of having been through hundreds of battles.

Beside the general orc, there is a black coloured animal with a lot of fur. What is that? That thing hid under the shadow of the piano, so I can't see its figure clearly.

That animal is bigger than my familiar gray wolf and its eyes gave off a red glow.

At this timing, the sight of that animal came over. No, it locked eyes with the crow.

That look sends shiver down my spine, a feeling of being seen through surged through my body.

The next second, that animal raised its head and looked at the general orc.

The general orc's right hand moved. It is throwing, it threw something sharp at the crow.

I shut my eyes unconsciously.....

The connection broke and the crow has been killed.

Chapter 37 – Aerial Investigation

I sighed, and climbed up from the bed and sat opposite to the chair, giving a simple explanation to Shiki-san who has been looking at me.

「Is that so?」

Shiki-san's color turned bad. Is it because there is a higher existence than the elite orc, so she felt uneasy? Or is it the presence of another fellow other than orcs, causing her to feel the sense of danger?

「How strong is it?」

「You are referring to?」

「The general orc.」

「I am not sure, but the oppressing feeling..... it is so high that

the elite orc cannot even compare with it.]

「If the whole elite party move out, what are the chances of victory?」

「With our current strength, I guess even if it's a 4 against 1, it will be hard.」

I said my feelings honestly. If the elite orc's level is 5 and the Skill is Pigman Rank 4.....

Then the general orc is at least Pigman Rank 6, or perhaps even Pigman Rank 7.

Pigman Rank 7, which means if it concentrate on raising 1 skill, the level will be 14 if counted in the same way as us. From its oppressive aura, having such a level of strength is not surprising.

No, in actuality we are not sure if the other party only leveled 1 skill, it could have a secret weapon. Anyway, Arisu and Tamaki's weapon skill Ranks are only 4. From the current state, the chance of us obtaining victory is very low. I told Shiki-san of this opinion.

「Can I say out my views honestly, Kazu-kun?」

「Please.」

「You naming the skill as Pigman, it gives off a bad feeling.」

「Mmm, I think so too.」

Shiki-san shrugged her shoulders.

「In other words, Arisu and Tamaki's weapon skill needs to reach Rank 5, if not there is no way to even compete.」

「Ah—— it should be so, without Rank 5, it will be hard, even if I use buffing magic to raise their ability, there is still a limit to it.」

And we have to consider its underlings, even if Skill Rank is 5, it will be harsh. If the aim is to reach Rank 6.....

Their weapon skills took a bit of effort to get to Rank 4.

「Arisu's level need to raise by 6 while it is 4 for Tamaki.」

「To attack the main school building within today, seems like an impossible mission?」

I said so in low spirits. But Shiki-san hugged her arms, and said in a lower tone in a reluctant way:

「If it is possible, I hope that we can do something by today.」

「Why?」

「If tomorrow comes, those captured girls could all die.」

I see—— I nodded, I understand her worries.

Those girls are captured by the orcs for nearly an entire day. If during this period, they have been continuously used by the orcs..... enduring until this time, it is already a miracle.

「Other than that, there is something that is troubling me, can I say it?」

「What is it?」

「In the girls' dormitory, the girls alive plus the corpses in each room, there are roughly about 80 people. According to what you said, even if we count the corpse in the campfire, the total number of boys and girls are at most 150 people right? If the situation is the same at the boys' dormitory, and you count in the students that participated in the societies..... don't you think that the number is a bit too little?」

Argh—— 80 plus 80 plus 150, means there are around 300?
But the middle school section should have at least 700
people.....

「Eh, that's right. Don't tell me more than half of the students..... all went to participate in clubs and societies?」

「Our school's societies are not that flourishing, and there are also no other places to play at.」

We looked at each other.

「I will go and ask the juniors who are keeping watch.」

The 10 girls that we saved from the girls' dormitory, 4 of them have already raised to level 1, and they are currently standing guard at the main entrance in turns, for us who are already exhausted.

Shiki-san wanted to stand up quickly.....

But she tripped.

I quickly got up from the bed and supported her shoulders.

Soap smell permeated from her body. Yes, they had just taken a shower. Later I should go wash up too, now the smell of sweat on my body should be very strong.

My thoughts only lasted for an instant. Shiki-san pushed away my hands, as though she is very afraid. She panted as though she is out of breath, and kept shaking her head strongly.

「So..sorry, I.....」

Is she still afraid of being touched by guys? This is also natural.

「Don't tell me that you didn't let Arisu cast «Cure Mind» on you?」

「Because I do not want to lose this pain.」

Shiki-san shook her head with a sorrowful face.

「This pain is necessary. The hatred towards the orcs, and the regrets for the kids who died in front of me, these 2 emotions supports the current me.」

Such a troublesome girl—— I thought so. I did not have any meaning of belittling her, because I do not plan on denying her way of fighting.

But facing her stubbornness and fool-headedness, I still not suppress the emotions that surprised me. Shiki-san seemed to have understood my feeling and revealed a bitter smile.

「This is fine, I do not have the value for gaining your pity. The past me, the me who abandoned you, is without a doubt also part of me.」

「You are tired.」

「Perhaps.」

Shiki-san laughed lonely.

◆◆◆

Shiki-san expressed that she is going to ask the people whom we rescued from the girls' dormitory and left. While I summoned another crow and cast «Remote Viewing» on it.

There is no need for the main school building, I intend to let it scout out another area. The me from the crow's viewpoint, flew out from the window on the Cultivating Centre level 3, and follow the airflow into the blue sky, then glide in the air, flying past the main school building, with the front as target.

First I head to the staff office. Even if there are a few, it's fine, if there are adult survivors.....

But that false hope was broken very easily.

No, the staff office is originally beside the main school building, even if there are survivors, knowing that the orcs are gathering nearby, they will also not stay there.

If there are survivors, they should have already escaped to the

places where the orcs can't reach. That is what I had thought.....

But, the staff office no longer existed. More correctly, the building that was once the staff office had collapsed, becoming a pile of broken bricks.

My instincts tells me that it should have collapsed during the earthquake. I remembered what Arisu said yesterday, the staff office is the oldest building in the middle school section, and it was decided to be renovated recently.

From this scenario, it will be hard for the teachers and staffs to survive the earthquake. Because of this, the students in the middle school section had to fight with the orcs without any help from adults.

No, even if there are adults, how much can it change.....

Even so, the ending could have been a bit better. If there are adults leading, the students could have gone to escape.

But the reality is not so. The students have to face the threat of the orcs alone, and nearly all of them failed to escape successfully.

According to Tamaki's words, Mia is a survivor from the students who escaped by themselves. It was Tamaki who

saved Mia and another companion who have escaped from the main school building. Will the good fortune that Mia have, also be given to the other students? I feel that the chances is quite small.

Ah, forget it, it is better to scout first.

The crow followed my instructions that was given earlier, and flew past the staff office, toward the next destination—— the boys' dormitory.

Honestly speaking, I desperately need guy companions. In mangas or animes, a guy who stays alone with a group of girls, will hence cheer because of the harem situation, but to me who is realistic, I could not cheer up.

Whether it is being concerned about others, or being concerned, all these made me feel uneasy.

And even if I use support magic to raise my muscle strength, digging holes is still a very energy consuming work, and currently there are no girls whose speed is even $\frac{1}{5}$ of mine.

Argh~ perhaps it is partly due to me being used to digging, but if it is a guy's muscle, the situation should be better, that is what I hope.

Because of this, I placed my hope on the guy survivors..... Only that the truth is not as I wished.

The boys' dormitory has been burnt.

I don't know the ones who set the fire are the orcs or the students who sunk into confusion.

A word of notice, there are many corpses of the students stacked in a pile at the tragic scene, all of them are boys, there could be roughly around 200 people.

After that, I had the crow to survey every building in the middle school section.

None of the buildings are safe. Other than the Cultivating Centre, the other buildings are all occupied by the orcs.

A few thinkings have already surfaced in my numbed heart.

Like『like this huh』,『the situation is now in despair』etc.

No one will come and help us, we have to fight with our own abilities. The ones who can resist are only the few of us in this Cultivating Centre.

The crow returned to my side.

There is still a lot of time for «Remote Viewing», hence I sent a few more orders to the crow.

The crow flew to the sky again.

Chapter 38 – High School Selection

The crow flew through the forest, towards the east direction, to the high school section.

Until now, I have completely disregarded the high school section. There are 2 routes linking the middle school section to the high school section, and one of them is already destroyed, while the other has become a route for the orcs to move.

With this, it is obvious that nobody will come and assist from the high school section. Since that is so, it is better to search for survivors in the middle school section.

That is what I have felt until now.

The majority of the middle section has been investigated, hence there is a need to get a hold of the situation in the high school section.

Honestly, I do not have any good memories of the people in the high school section, and I even felt that those people should all be killed by the orcs. Before yesterday that is what I had thought, but now, I still agree to about 80%.

But no matter how much I hate them, the orc threat is the most urgent problem.

If there are more helpers, if there are more companions, perhaps Shimoyamada Akane will not have to die.

Once I had thought about her death, I had to change my thinking. The people at the high school section indeed ridicule and regarded me with contempt, pushing me physically and mentally to the limits. I had once been beaten, kicked, trampled upon on my head, forced to obey humiliating commands and ridiculed.

But they did not take away my life.

While the orcs will chop off my head with their axes.

Hence if Shiki-san judged that this method will work, then I will attempt to consider if we will join hands with the high school section.

No matter how much I hated it. But if those fellows at the high school section mentioned my past situation until yesterday to Tamaki, Mia and the others..... Once I thought about this, cold sweat permeated my body.

Although even if this really happens, Arisu and Shiki-san will still be my companions. Tamaki and Mia will definitely not mind these, and continue to defend me.

But the others..... what about them?

Even though it's an accident, but I feel that everyone will stand on my side. We had once faced the orcs in battle before, facing a strong enemy that was very imposing, and endured to the limits, forming feelings of companionship, although that could be my one-sided feelings.....

While I am considering such matters, the crow finally reached the distance where we can clearly see the high school buildings. First is the most noticeable main school building. That is a 4 storey building, because it was newly built 5 years ago, the outside and inside are all very beautiful. As a side note, the toilets inside are all bidet toilets. (TL note: who is reminded of Gunota ga Mahou Sekai ni Tensei Shitara, Gendai Heiki de Guntai Harem o Tsukucchaimashita!?)

The windows in the main school building are all broken and I can see shadows of the orcs moving inside. I could only shout out with an『ah』.

『Even that side?』

I could not help but murmured. The crow kept on diving through different buildings in the high school section.

Then I saw it.

There are humans there, living humans that are walking around. Near the 2nd boys' dormitory of the high school section, there are a few guys and girls fighting with the orcs.

It's the survivors, survivors other than us. They are using swords and magic to fight with the orcs.

Then, I discovered a guy inside that party.

That person have slender eyes like cats, a thin but hunchback figure, an aquiline nose coupled with a unique malicious smile. I will definitely not see wrongly, that guy is——

Saso Shiba.

The guy who is in the same class, the one who bullied me to the utmost.

Shiba proudly ordered the people around, while he stood behind them, with a hunting rifle from who knows where, in his hands.

That's right, it's a real gun. There is such a thing in the school? Or is it hidden by someone before?

I am not sure about the answer. But anyway, Shiba is holding the hunting rifle in his hands.

One of the girls holding the sword is pressed down by the orc and is screaming, trembling. Shiba, once he saw that scene, a grin appeared on the edge of his mouth, and after pointing the muzzle at the orc who is pressing on the girl, and pulled the trigger. The orc's head is blown away, collapsing on the girl.

My whole body stiffened, and my throat is dry, and I clenched my fist involuntarily.

What is this? What is that fellow doing? Oi Shiba, what are you.....

The crow flew past the place of gathering, and returned.

◆◆◆

「Kazu-kun?」

Shiki-san's voice entered my ears, I cut «Remote Viewing» and raised my head.

I don't know when did Shiki-san come to beside, causing to be so shocked until I inched back.

「Ah, I am fine, sorry Shiki-san」

「Then that is good..... You sweated a lot.」

「Because, it is too hot.」

「Hand.」

Shiki-san pointed to my right hand. I opened my hand, and noticed that my palm is bleeding due my clenching.

「Noticed that? You are trembling.」

Is it—— I nodded. Mmm, I know that I am afraid. Even though it is nonsensical, but once I saw him, I will still be very afraid. A certain something have craved itself deep within my soul, and the past wounds are tormenting me. Once I saw that face, I will have breathing difficulties.

「What happened?」

I judged that such things should not be hidden, hence I said out what I saw honestly. I spoke everything in bits and pieces, without hiding anything. Shiki-san listened while maintaining the silence.

「I will sit here.」

Shiki-san took off her shoes and climbed onto the small king-size bed, sitting beside me. Our distance is so close until our shoulders could nearly touch each other. Her shoulders are slightly slanted, it should be that she is still a bit afraid of guys.

「What do you want?」

「Just like you are not good with Saso-kun, I am also afraid of guys. But I believe this can be overcome. No matter how tough it is, I will fight for you to see, and not seek assistance from magic.」

Shiki-san said to her side. She laughed ironically, while leaning her body to a side, placing her shoulders on my body, like she is fooling around with me. Through her shirt, I can feel her warmth and her trembling..... No, it's fear.

「But it must be painful.」

「Mmm, sorry.」

「What do you want to say?」

「You are not alone, only this, you must not forget about it.」

「I know.」

「If you met Saso-kun on the battlefield, then depend on Arisu, Tamaki and Mia. If he has any intention of talking, then let me do it. If something really happens, no matter how ugly your actions are, it is fine. But, even so, please believe in our support to you, and not escape from facing Saso-kun.」

Ah, right. I had just remembered, I have something very important that I have yet to tell her. It should be, I completely forgot. I only told this to Arisu.

「That, are you willing to hear my confession?」

「Mmm, tell me.」

「Yesterday I could defeated an orc initially, and leveled up to level 1 successfully, do you know why?」

「Now that you mentioned it, I never asked.」

「Do you know why I am so good at digging?」

「Don't know, why?」

Shiki-san blanked out for a while. So she will also give such an expression? I could only snicker in secret.

「Wait, what is it?」

「Sorry, I should not smile. I did not have any meaning of ridiculing you.」

「Continue just now that topic. Why are you so good at digging?」

「Yesterday before the earthquake, I had intended on luring that guy, Saso Shiba to the forest and let him drop into the hole I dug, and pour gasoline over him, then stab him to death with the bamboo spear.」

「I see.」

「You are not shocked at all.」

「The feeling is like a puzzle being pieced back, I finally knew why Arisu tried to wiggle her way out. In the end, that murder plan failed.」

「At the crucial moment, the earthquake happened and that guy ran back to the high school section in shock.」

「Then the orc walked over and drop into the hole?」

「That's right.」

Shiki-san shrugged her shoulders in a dramatic way.

「Lucky.」

「Indeed.」

「I am saying about us. Thanks to your intention to kill Sas-

kun, after a few complicated times, then we could survive like now. If not. I am probably tortured to death by the orcs.」

「Well that is one way of saying.」

「So, thank you.」

Shiki-san said so, and smiled after turning towards me.

「Thanks for the preparation that you made for killing Sasokun.」

「That is a crime.」

「Currently there is no law in this place, so we are the only ones who can decide if this is a crime. I will support your actions, no matter what I will defend you. So this is not a crime, you are justice itself.」

「What warped reasoning.」

「Yeah. But morals will change according to era, it is not absolute.」

So—— Shiki-san continued:

「You must maintain your confidence and lead everyone.」

I hesitated for a while, and nodded.

「Meaning I am law.」

「Mmm, that's right. As long as you are willing, I can make every girl in the Cultivating Centre yours.」

「Arisu will get angry.」

「That's right, Arisu is your law.」

Shiki-san snickered, and then her expression turned serious again.

「Kazu-kun, there is only a thing that you must have a certain realisation.」

「Realisation?」

「The realisation to kill someone. Meaning or perhaps in the future, you may have to kill others beside Saso-kun.」

I frowned, while Shiki-san just shook her head slowly.

「Of course, that time do remember to tell me first, I will give you the instructions.『please kill this person』, you must follow my orders and kill your past classmates and senpais.」

「You.....」

Shiki-san used her hand to press on her chest and smiled, that smile is so bewitching that it sends shivers down my spine.

「Let me be the villain. Your..... no, all your filth will be beared by me」

Shiki-san's heroic words, caused me to hold my breath.

Chapter 39 – Shiki-san's Repentance

Before 2pm, I spent all my time on enhancing gym clothes and weapons.

With this, my MP is completely empty, and it will need about 100 minutes before they are completely recovered.

「When your MP recovers, we should also move out to fight.」

Shiki-san decisively announced. When I finished casting all the magic, she enter my room on level 3.

I sat on the bed and Shiki-san sat on the only chair in the room, facing me.

「While I said that, the ones responsible for the battle are the 4 of you.」

「After all it is better to concentrate the experience on us.」

Shiki-san's plan is very simple, which is to use a certain magic as basis, and for the 4 of us to attack the main school building.

「Wouldn't the orcs be separated in various classrooms in the main building? I feel that it will be fine as long as we use 『Silent Field』to enter from the window, then attack them from various points.」

『Silent Field』is a skill in Rank 2 Wind Magic. Mia raised the Rank of Wind Magic in the previous battle and gotten this magic.

This magic can create something like a barrier to prevent sound from reach, and it can be cast on humans or objects. If the target that was cast with magic was to move, the space will also move along. The range is made with the target as the center, with a radius of around 3 meters. When Wind Magic is Rank 2, it can last around 2 to 3 minutes.

As long as the entire party is inside the space, then we can move without making a slightest sound. When we fight in the space, we can also erase the sounds of battle. Even if we entered the classroom and wipe out those orcs, the neighbouring classrooms will also never discover it — as long as we have this magic, even such tricks can be realised.

Of course, this is the result if everything proceeds smoothly. But I don't think that we can always fight in an ideal situation.

Even so, if its Arisu and Tamaki now.....

「If there is an elite orc, then we should be able to handle it?」

「Well, if we enter combat in a situation where the enemy does not discover us, then it should be fine.」

According to Arisu and Tamaki's feedback, after their Weapon Skill raised to Rank 4, they can go toe to toe with the elite orc, and even attain the advantage.

Although a part of this is attributed to the effect of my support magic, but according to their strength, they do not need to fear the elite orc too much.

「The problem is how many orcs do we need to defeat for Arisu and Tamaki's Weapon Skill is raise to Rank 6.」

I briefly calculated it. In the previous battle, after Tamaki and Mia leveled up, for the sake of raising the levels of the girls from the dormitory to level 1, they kept running around. So after they leveled up, we shouldn't have defeated anymore orcs.

We can discuss the exact details later, but we should calculate

like this first. Same as previously, the experience of 1 orc is 60, argh.....

Hmm, Tamaki's experience value is the same as a new level 7, which is 1680. Arisu needs to add 900 more, so it is 2580 of level 8.

Tamaki's skill points has 3, while it is 0 for Arisu. If it is like this, for weapon skill to be rise up to 2 more Ranks.....

Tamaki's level need to reach 11, then her sword skill can be rise to Rank 6. To raise to level 11, she need 3960 experience, which is to say she needs 2280 more, and has to defeat 152 small fry orcs.

For Arisu, if she does not reach level 14, then her Spear Skill cannot reach Rank 6. To reach level 14, she needs 6300 experience, and she is missing 3720 currently, so she needs to defeat 248 small fry orcs.

「Like this even if we kill all the orcs and elite orcs in the middle school section, it does not seem to have enough?」

I said out my feelings directly.

「Yes, the number of orcs are exhausted.」

Shiki-san acted like she is joking..... Even if we can defeat a

few elite orcs in between, but it is still tough to find over 100 orcs.

「But, we should at least let Tamaki's skill rank reach 6. If not, it will be tough in the battle against the general orc.」

「Must we fight today?」

「Do you feel that those girls would still be alive after today?」

I remembered those girls that we saved from the girls' dormitory, until Arisu casted healing magic, they all looked very miserable. And they still have to continue to suffer the brutal treatment from the orcs, and survive a night.....

Mmm, not possible. Today is probably the limit.

「Just a mention, by measuring from the degree of violence that I suffered.....」

「Please still stop being masochistic.」

Shiki-san laughed sarcastically again. Ah really, this person's masochistic jokes are not comfortable to listen to!

「Other than that, there is still 1 more thing I have to tell you.」

Once Shiki-san got to that, her expression turned serious. Yes,

she went to ask the girls' that we saved from the girls' dormitory.

「Did you understand what happened?」

「Regarding the number of girls not tallying, it is because a portion of the orcs seemed to have brought the girls to another place.」

「From the girls' dormitory?」

「Mmm, those orcs are dressed in purple robes and small sized, which is a bit different from the other orcs. Although we cannot judge what they are, but they selected some girls that can be brought away.」

Orcs wearing purple robes? What is going on? Can they use magic?

Why did they kidnapped the girls? Just raping them in the girls' dormitory isn't enough?

No no no, wait a moment. I had never thought about this problem before..... No, it is because there is no value in thinking about this question, hence I had ignored it.

「Then again, why did the orcs attack us?」

「Well, perhaps they need sacrifices for a ritual?」

Hearing Shiki-san's guess, I suddenly came to a realisation.
The 2 of us looked at each other.

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「The orc came from the north side of the mountain, which is from the peak.」

「It seems so. If that is so, then they are probably brought there. But it could also be possible that they are locked up somewhere in the main school building.」

「To confirm this, there is a need to sneak into the main school building.」

Regarding the reason as for why the orcs attack the school, I had initially thought because there are girls here, so the orcs came to rape them.

After the feeling they gave off is rather simple, and they are pigs, and in actuality they are also stupid, so they are not suitable for group movements.

I had thought they are straightforward monsters, hence I did not notice other areas.

But if there are certain organisms leading the orcs, and they have matters for the orcs to do.

Using the things that they can use until its limits, then the rest of the students are useless to it. So——

「Then the rest is up to you to play with.」

「Indeed Ozu-sama, you understand it!」(Tl note: these lines are from Tactics ogre. According to the chinese translation, it is about Ozu discussing on how to treat a female with his subordinates. I don't play it so yeah.)

I guess the orcs had a conversation like above. Then again who is Ozu!

「Yes, Kazu-kun. After I thought about it, I felt that the place that those orcs stayed before, there are sure be general orcs, or even someone who is of a higher position, so.....」

「So, we have to take the time now to gather the power that can oppose those fellows, right?」

Shiki-san nodded.

「I don't think that the orcs in the main school building is the main force. According to Kazu-kun's investigation, the high

school section and the middle school section have similar number of orcs, hence I guess that the possibility of the main force being deep in the a certain part of the forest is quite high.]

「Should we attack there today?」

「I guess so.」

Hmm, I also felt that there is no choice. But I agree with killing as many orcs as possible, so as to increase the strength of our side. And, I also agree with saving the girls who are trapped in the main school building. As for the reason.....

「Let me guess what you are thinking about?」

Shiki-san revealed an evil grin as I expected.

「To face off against the high school section, it is better to have as many pieces as possible.」

「That's right, I am thinking of treating the people we rescued as pawns, using them to resist the high school section. Your opinion?」

「Agreed completely. At least from what you have said, I feel that I will not work well with Saso-kun and the gang that he leads. Didn't he use other students as shields? What is the

difference between imitating the elite orcs and that.」

「That is afterall an image I saw, moreover I could also lie due to hatred for Shiba.」

「From your looks just now, I don't think that you are lying. You are not some actor so your skills can't be so trained until you can act out fear so realistically.」

Stop babbling and mind your own business. Shiki-san smiled.

「The worst situation is to wipe him and those who follows him out.」

「Your decision is pretty fast.」

「Ah, that is the conclusion after I thought about it for a long time.」

When did you get the time to consider about it for so long?

「When I leveled up to level 2.」

Ah, is it? In the battle before, she was fighting alone, so she raise to level 2. During that time, she considered these?

In other words, regarding the situation in the high school section, she already had some sort of prediction?

「Nope. I only constructed a few possible scenarios, within a certain situation, and considered.」

I see, I do not completely understand. No, I understand the motive, but I can't imitate it.

「I feel that you are a person who get stronger in adversity, the type that can make the best decision in a sudden situation. I am different. I will think deeply, and make preparations and choose the best methods depending on the situations, so I am not good at making sudden changes.」

「Well I can't see that.」

「That is because I hid it quite well usually. But not yesterday, a sudden attack by mythical beings like orcs, I was so shocked that I stopped, and could only stay on the spot, unable to move.」

Shiki-san said so, lowered her head, and hesitantly fell silent.

After thinking about it, she raised her head and looked directly at me.

「If that is only like that, it is still okay. Kazu-kun, you know..... I, that time held onto my friend's clothes, causing her to be unable to escape as well.」

Ah, so that is the reason—— I had thought so. Seeing Shiki-san crying and yet forcing smiles, all the questions are finally explained.

This is her regret that she never confessed to anyone before. Because of her selfish behavior, she caused her friend to miss the timing to escape, and unfortunately lose her life.

This is a result from a stupid action, which is she herself, surviving alone.

So that is why she is like a martyr, suffering this pain alone. The reason for excessive mentioning being raped by orcs, this perhaps is a punishment that she gave for herself.

Not letting Arisu cast «Cure Mind» on her, is probably to view her pain as a punishment for her crime.

Boring—— To laugh at her is a very simple thing.

But I can't laugh. A person who facing the burdens from her failures, and yet continued to struggle to move forward, I am unable to laugh at such a person, telling her that this is nothing but self-torture.

Because this is the same mistake that I made yesterday.

In the time after meeting the elite orc, saving Shiki-san, I did not confess my relationship with her to Arisu, so that is why Arisu stopped to save Shiki-san.

I nearly lost Arisu.

Luckily everything ended smoothly and thanks to that, Shiki-san and I can face each other. My gamble won, and my reward is great. That is a battle that is worth risking.

But all of this originated from my mistake, and it just happened to have gone well. Because I know this, that is why I can't laugh at her.

If I lost Arisu then, can I still stand back up? Can I still smile like this?

If this became true in the future, can I still smile——

No matter if it is using a time machine or what, anyway I will use all sorts of methods to beat up such a me.

That is a very fatal mistake, it's a mistake that cannot be tolerated.

So I will not laugh at Shiki-san.

But even so, I will not console her. She probably will not wish

for me to do so.

She only wish to suffer quietly, and then use that as a motivation to work for everyone.

That's right, no matter what her motive is, she still helped us. Without her, we will not be able to continue like in the past.

And, the most important is.....

「So Kazu-kun——」

Shiki-san laughed with sarcasm again.

「I will say it again, give me more burdens. Give me a burden that is so heavy that I will roll around in pain and I will accept it for you to see. What you need, even if I were to die, I will also prepare it.」

If her sacrifice can save all of us, then what is the problem with it.

Chapter 40 – Middle School Suppression Operation 1

After Shiki-san left, I took a nap. Without MP, there is nothing I can do. If that is so, resting when there is time is also very important.

Thinking about it carefully, we have been having intensive

battles since early in the morning.

Losing to the sleep demon is also a matter of time, so my conscious sunk into darkness just like that.

◆◆◆

I was shook awake by someone. I opened my eye and saw Arisu's face.

「What time is it now?」

「3.30pm.」

3.30pm, theoretically my MP should be completely full.

「Shiki-senpai want me to wake u up. And also that.....」

After Arisu mumbled a while, she kissed the me who is still groggy from sleep.

She stuck her tongue into my mouth and we kept exchanging saliva, until we are unable to breathe.

After our lips separated, Arisu is flushed due to a lack of oxygen, and her breathing is also very fast.



「She also said to help Kazu-san get his spirit up.」

Mmm, some other place also became very energetic. Even though I was nearly overwhelmed with desires, I still desperately endured and got up.

Even if I have only a moment of happiness with Arisu for a short while, the people waiting will probably only use warm expression to look at us, then laughed while saying「there is nothing we can do about you two」.

But my MP is already full, wasting time here is too wasteful. If I want to do happy things with Arisu, it is better to wait until my MP is empty.

「Where should I go?」

「Shiki-senpai want you to go down to the lobby.」

I followed behind Arisu out of the room. In front there is a group of girls moving, they are the girls who fought side by side with us just now.

One of them gave regards to me stiffly, and I also answered stupidly.

I know I should express myself more naturally, but Shimoyamada Akane's face will keep appearing. This gave me

some hesitation, on whether if I should shorten my distance with them.

「Please do your best Kazu-san. We will maintain the state where we can head out anytime.」

That girl clenched her fist while saying it. It seems that the reason why she is so stiff, was only due to her opinion of me being too exaggerated.

In their hearts, just how noble a hero was I?

Also, Shiki-san should have also told everyone on the matter of attacking the main school building. Although she did it without informing me, but this also saved me a lot of trouble so I will forget about this matter.

And in actuality the ones battling are Arisu, Mia and Tamaki, including my familiars.

All I had to do, is to act confident and give out orders, which I felt that it is similar to what Shiba is doing. But I am not that arrogant like that guy, and I also do not want to be like that. If it is possible, I do not wish to let any of my companions get injured.

I do not know when a few tables and chairs are placed in the lobby.

Part of the area became a place to place stuff, and there are a few bags filled with a lot of things.

Shiki-san crossed her hands in front of the bags, and raised her head to look at me, and Tamaki and Mia are also beside her.

I don't know why, but they gave out smirky smiles.

「Morning, until which step did you have Arisu do for you?」

「I only had her wake me up.」

Arisu lowered her head, blushing. With this, didn't my calm reply lose its meaning? Forget it, after all Arisu's shy look is also very cute.

I walked down the stairs from the balcony, and looked at what is inside the bags unconsciously.

Other than water bottles, CalorieMate and torchlights, there are still things like toolbox, tapes and medicines.

「I think there are some stuff which requires Arisu's healing magic, but there will also be a need to save MP. If you feel that they are too heavy, you can freely choose some to take out.」

「There is no need, with 『Mighty Arm』, these stuff should be

easily carried, thanks.]

I thanked Shiki-san and turned to the other 3. Okay——

[I believe you have already heard from Shiki-san.]

I announced to the 3 of them.

[Next I wish to attack the main school building.]

Arisu and the others nodded with nervous faces

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The elite party's gym clothes and bloomers are already casted with «Hard Armour».

I had Arisu and Tamaki wear working gloves and hats and cast «Hard Armour» on them.

I continue to add on other support magic. With me included, I casted «Physical Up», «Mighty Arm» and «Clear Mind», while for Arisu and Tamaki's weapons, I add an extra «Keen Weapon».

After casting so much magic, it only cost my 14 MP, which will be recovered in 20 minutes. Because my support magic is now Rank 4, so the effective time of the magic has changed from 80 to 120 minutes.

「I wish to reduce the enemy force in the main school building, that will be the priority. We must turn it into a situation whereby they will be unable to make a move on the Cultivating Centre.」

I reported the information I have gotten from the investigation by the crow. But I hid the matter on the high school section temporarily, because that has nothing to do with the current situation.

That's right, it is just because of that. I hope that they will focus their mind on attacking the main school building of the middle school section, just that only.....

Mmm, I can't lie to myself, I better admit it.

I am scared of the high school section.

No, the person that I am scared of is Shiba. I fear that once that guy forms a strong force, they will bring danger to us.

Of course, things may not become like that, the survivors may work together too.

But Shiki-san told me that we have to imagine the worst situation. She also ordered me not to make any optimistic prediction. And even expressed that we should be gathering

power now. I do not have objection to that.

Hence, I had thought about attacking the main school building.

Hearing about the existence of the general orc, the expressions of Arisu and the other tightened.

Other than that, beside the general orc, the existence of an unknown beast, made them their expression even more complicated.

Arisu and Tamaki looked at each other, as if thinking on what should they do to obtain victory.....

「Basically we will not fight with the general orc.」

I told it to them directly.

「It should be that there is no need to fight. In the battles until now, the general orc have never appeared before, hence I judged that its character is not one that heads an attack. According to the situation on our side, if there is only 1 general orc, there should be methods to handle it, such as luring it into a trap etc.」

「Kazu-san, you really like traps.」

Tamaki said dumbfounded. So rude, our battles until now have mainly depended on traps to succeed.

People who laughs at traps will also cry because of traps. This is a common logic, and also a basic law of life. Okay, I shall put this aside for now.

「The objective of this battle is to decrease the number of small fry orcs and elite orcs as much as possible. Luckily the orcs in the main school building does not seem to be gathering in a location, but separated all around in the classrooms. So we will attack each classroom. As for the method.....」

「We will use my 『Silent Field』.」

Mia said.

「That's right, Shiki-san explained it?」

「Mmm.」

Good, since it has already been explained then the discussion will be fast.

「But, Kazu-chi, that beast's nose maybe very keen.」

「That is a monster that just looks similar to a beast, and it is in the most deep room on level 3 with the general orc. Anyway,

just avoid standing in the upwind direction. At least when fight on storey 2 and below, there should not be any chance of revealing ourselves due to smell.]

I see—— Mia nodded.

「Once things get dangerous, then run away immediately. After all the matter of us being at the Cultivating Centre is already exposed, there is no need to care about it too much. During retreating, we will borrow the power of Shiki-san's party.】

This time, Shiki-san will lead 3 girls as support.

They have 2 main roles, one is to provide assistance when the main force is retreating; the other is to bring the survivors out when we discover them.

「Then, regarding traps.....】

I looked at Mia.

「Mmm, just now Shiki-senpai asked me, I have already dug the holes, which are in the forest that is about 5 minutes away from the main school building.】

With Mia's «Earth Pit», then we do not need to take the risk to dig holes near enemies. We just have to use magic to dig, then carefully hide them. Theoretically, we can finish in minutes.

「I remembered the positions of the holes properly. There are a few, so we can lure the enemies according to the situations.」

Shiki-san said so. I nodded.

「As for how to contact.....」

Shiki-san took out a wireless transceiver, it is an old model which is bigger than the palm and uses batteries.

「This is found by chance when a student was searching deep inside the basement of the Cultivating Centre. Because there are 2, so one of them will be kept by Kazu-kun and the other by me.」

I see, then this will be different from using the crow, we can communicate anytime. I really hoped that we could have found this earlier..... But from the situations, we can't expect too much.

「Then we will proceed like this. Is there any questions?」

Nobody asked. We carried the bags and left the Cultivating Centre.

「Arisu, Tamaki, if you feel that the stuff you are carrying is heavy.....」

「We will throw them away during battle, no worries.」

「That' right, that's right, there is no need for Kazu-san to worry, just relax and see us in action.」

Hearing Tamaki say it, I felt even more uneasy.....

No, I had intended on giving it to them. After all I do not have any fighting capabilities, physical fights can only be left to Arisu, Tamaki and the wolves.

I casted «Summon Gray Wolf», and called out another gray wolf, maintaining the state of 2 wolves. Basically we are taking stealth actions, so I do not want to increase the number of the familiars too much.

I also cast «Keen Weapon»,«Physical Up»and«Mighty Arm»on this wolf.

I only summoned 1 crow that is used for investigation, since there is a transceiver, this should be enough.

My MP has already recovered during discussing, with the highest value at 71. This time we intend to end it fast, hence according to our needs, it should be enough with «Haste», but.....

I don't know if any unexpected situation will occur in this battle, so it is better to save MP.

Shiki-san and the 3 girls followed behind us, 2 of them with spears and the last is with a sword. One of the girls holding a spear, is the pony-tailed girl who talked to me before.

Argh, I remembered she is a girl that we saved from the girls' dormitory. Even if it is just for a short period, she had stood guard for us, is her strength okay?

Noticing my glance, the girl said in a monotonous tone:「Please take care of me.」

「Erm, mmm, me too.」

「After all I couldn't sleep and my body is also cured by magic, so I hope to be of help, even if it is just a little bit.」

「Is that so? Don't force yourself.」

「Yes, please kill many orcs for us.」

That..... I did have such an intention.

She said it lightly, with no change in her expression, making me feel a bit scared. Argh, from how she had suffered, I can understand the hatred that she had for the orcs.

As for my awkward state, I don't know what Tamaki is thinking, and actually jumped in, saying:

「Sakura-chan has always given off such a feeling. Although her attitude is cold, but she is not a bad kid.」

「Ah—— you knew each other?」

「Well no, Sakura-chan may not know me.」

The girl named Sakura nodded, saying:「That's right, I do not know senpai.」Since she addressed Tamaki as senpai, she should be a Year 2 or Year 1 student?

「She is famous. Year 2 Nagatsuki Sakura, from the track club, her running speed is very fast, and she has even entered nationals before.」

Ah—— I see, she is the type that is good at something.

Even for such a powerful person, danger will reach her equally. She, being able to survive, is also because of luck.

No, is it really luck? This perhaps is only prolonging her pain. Working hard to ensure that the situation did not become that, is our responsibility.....

I always felt that such things does not concern me. Actually in such times, all I need to say is『let me pave the path to your futures』or something like that.

But this is not my style.

I just want to finish everything that can be done for now.

『Anything that needs speed can be left to me. I raised Spear Skill and Physical, I will do my best as bait.』

『I understand, then I will depend on you.』

Her skills are Spear Skill 1 / Physical 1. With this, the battle in the forest will perhaps be easier. I used «Physical Up» on all the support members including her.

After we reached near the main building, we had the supporting members hide in the nearby woods.

And quickly killed the 2 orcs that are patrolling.

Though I said patrol, they only seem like they are just walking around the school building. Anyway Arisu and Tamaki finished them off in a second.

We quietly got closer to the broken window of a certain classroom, and sent the crow in to see the current situation in

it.

「3 orcs.」

Okay. I gave Mia a secret sign, and had her cast «Silent Field» towards Arisu and Tamaki.

In this timeframe, I had the crow to fly to the window side again.

I ordered the crow to wait until all the orcs are back-facing the windows, then raise one of its wings.

About 10 second passed.

The crow raised one of its wings.

The battle has began.

Chapter 41 – Middle School Suppression Operation 2

I cast «Haste» on Arisu and Tamaki.

Arisu rushed out, followed by Tamaki, through the broken window and invaded inside.

Mia and I got closer to the window and peek in.

So it is the Art Classroom. The plaster statue at the wall is broken, the canvas is torn and the tools are all scattered around.

There are 3 guys at the corner of the room, they are lying there with their heads in weird directions.

And near the centre of the classroom, there are 3 orcs currently raping 3 naked girls.

Arisu and Tamaki attacked the orcs that are back-facing us.

One used the spear to stab through the body, another used the axe to cut off the head.

The orcs gave out dying groans..... No, although they opened their mouths, with movements like they are going to cry out, but they fall silently.

◦

In the effective area of «Silent Field», all the sounds are isolated. No matter sounds or movements, all of them are silent.

The remaining orc turned over frantically, and opened its mouth as though it wanted to say something, and tried to stand up. It is probably swearing.

It is just that I completely cannot hear its voice.

The next second, Tamaki's axe cut the orc's body horizontally. The orc is split into 2 on the spot, and blue blood sprayed out like a spring and it died like that.

All these happened in a soundless environment. The battle ended.

I waved as a signal to Shiki-san and the others who are hiding in the shade of the trees, the 4 of them immediately ran over.

We entered the Art Classroom. Among the 3 girls, 2 of them have already stopped breathing. Arisu cast «Heal» and «Cure Mind» to the girl who is still breathing.

These 4 MP is a necessary expenditure, we cannot not help the victims.

If it is just concerning the battle this time, the priority is of course eliminating the orcs. But Shiki-san and I factored in the possibility of the survivors entering the battle force into considerations. After all we are not sure if we can rescue more companions in the future.

The people we saved may not be willing to join in the fight, but if a person like Nagatsuki Sakura is among that few, then tomorrow it will be slightly easier for us, and it will be even easier in the day after tomorrow.

Considering the situation in the high school section, this is probably a good method. At least, we are unable to believe in the people who survived in the high school section, and I am unable to tolerate Shiba's methods.

Being only able to recruit from the middle school section, that is what Shiki-san and I have thought.

Shiki-san is approaching the door of the Preparation Room

beside the Arts Classroom alone, and silently placed her ear on the door.

The position she is at is not within the «Silent Field» of Arisu and the other. Shiki-san turned her head over here, and raised a finger, meaning there is at least 1 orc inside. Although I do not know how many orcs are there, but no matter what, the matter of defeating them will not change.

I used a movement to give Arisu and the others the permission, and Arisu and Tamaki stood in front of the door.

Shiki-san opened the door.

Inside there are orcs. From my position, I can only see 1. When the other party showed a surprised expression, Arisu rushed in.

Arisu rush towards the orc, and stabbed out. The orc had its throat pierced, and stopped breathing immediately.

Tamaki followed Arisu and rush deep inside, this means there

are orcs on that side too. Shiki-san peeked inside and showed 3 fingers.

3 orcs? I see.

There are corpses in the preparation room too. 1 naked female school teacher's corpse, 2 boy's corpse and a girl's corpse. After the females are dead, the orcs still continued to rape them.

Even though it is painful to see, but expressing our feelings here will not have any benefits. What we can do now, is to do our best at killing all the orcs in this school building. Then saving those who are still alive, even if there is only 1 person.

I sent the crow out to investigate again. Although «Silent Field» may lose its effect during the investigation, but this is something that cannot be helped.

According to the information from Arisu and the others, the next room beside us is the Home Economics Room, then it is the Science Classroom. The special classrooms that need to use fire are seemingly placed together. Following the corridor, the next classrooms are the Year 3 Classrooms.

In the building for Middle school section, the Year 1 Classrooms are on level 3, Year 2 Classrooms are on level 2, while the Year 3 Classrooms are on level 1. There are 8 classes in a Year, including the special classrooms, each level has about 12-14 classrooms.

There is a difference in the number of classrooms on each level, because there are big classroom like the Music Classroom, and there are small rooms like the preparation room. And within them, there are south facing classrooms that faces the courtyard, and the north-facing classrooms that we entered from. Other than that, there are a few empty classrooms.

After the crow returns, it reported that there are no orcs in the classrooms opposite and beside of us, while in the classroom diagonal of us, there are 4 orcs.

Among the orcs, there is one with blue skin. Is it an elite orc?

「Are there orcs in the corridor?」

The crow answered that currently there is none. Good, then we can only do it now.

「Arisu go and defeat the small fry orcs first, Tamaki will aim for the elite orc.」

There are many obstacles like tables and chairs in the classroom of the main school building, and the ceiling isn't that tall. To Arisu who uses an iron spear, perhaps there will be the danger of being unable to use her full strength.

But the one who have 1 more day of experience of facing an elite orc is Arisu, it is hard to say which is the right choice.....

「Leave it to me, Kazu-san. I will properly show it to you!」

Tamaki seems to have a lot of push behind her, well I will leave it. After the 2 of them got the assistance of «Haste» and «Silent Field», they immediately rushed out. After Mia and I confirmed that there are no more orcs along the corridor, we followed closely behind them.

Shiki-san and the others one of them was carrying the girl survivor, followed slightly further away from us.

I lean over as though I am peeking in the classroom diagonal of us which Arisu and Tamaki ran in.

The orcs near the entrance reacted quickly to the invaders, and used its large sword to block Tamaki's giant axe.

There should have been a sharp sound from the collusion of the weapons, but the classroom remained silent. The elite orc hence showed a shocked expression.

Arisu used a stab to pierce the head of the orc that is currently raping the girl, and killed it. The other 2 orcs are also stabbed to death as they were turning back. Her skills are superb, killing 3 orcs in a blink of an eye.

Tamaki's axe and the elite orc's sword clashed again and again. If «Silent Field» was not casted, it would have given out quite a shocking amount of sound.

Their attack and defense exchange was very impressive, I completely could not follow their moves.

Arisu who finished off the small fry orcs, went to support Tamaki. Arisu and Tamaki's weapon skills are all risen to Rank 4, even if it's the elite orc, facing off against 2 of them is unadvantagous to it.

The 2 of them crossed arms a few rounds, then the elite orcs lost its balance due to Arisu's strike, and Tamaki's giant axe swung towards it at that moment.

The attack that swept pass, cut the thick neck of the elite orc in a blow, its head flew up into the air.

Arisu leveled up.

◆ ◆ ◆

In the white room.

「Did it, we did it! We can finally defeat the elite orc easily!」

Tamaki kept jumping around, seemingly very happy, her golden ponytails jumped around like a dog's tail.

「That is because there are 2 of you and there is still support from 『Haste』, don't let your guard down.」

「I of course know that this is due to Arisu and Kazu-san's efforts.」

「I do not mean that. There is no need to thank me, I just wanted you to keep your guard up. Please.」

Tamaki blanked out for a moment, seemingly understanding that I am worried about her from the bottom of my heart, and 「Mmm！」, nodded with a lot of strength.

「Then again, ha—— not speaking, seems to let me feel so stuffy until even breathing is hard!」

「It is fine to shout out. Actually, Arisu has been shouting while she is stabbing.」

I turned to Arisu, she replied shyly:「Y..you saw it?」

「If shouting out can increase your strength, then feel free to shout. After all in the『Silent Field』, the surrounding people cannot hear anything.」

「Th...that is true.」

Arisu placed her hand on her chest, and relaxed. While Tamaki opened her mouth in shock saying:「Is it?」, I always feel that this is a combination that will make one worry for their future..... Erm—— forget it, it is fine.

「The 2 of you are so interesting, Arisu-chi and Tamaki-chi are a *bumpy* combination.」(TL note: でこぼこコンビ)

Mia said. Although it is indeed so, but you actually dare to say it.

「Yeah, Mia, didn't you still call them senpai in the morning?」

「We have discussed it and not use that sort of formal titles.」

Tamaki was explaining at a corner. I see, after all we are companions.

「But, Arisu-chi and Tamaki-chi is a bit.....」

「If I simplify it more, it will be Tamakin.」(TL note: its a pun but i don understand it. but i am guessing Tamakin is a flipped “kin tama” which means testes. The chinese translation tells me it has the same sounds as balls)

I silently stared at Mia.

「What an embarrassing name.」

「Then don't say it like that.」

「Mmm—— it is fine, I don't mind it.」

Tamaki said so with loud laughter. What an amazing person, I am respecting you for the first time.

「Okay, anyway, everyone should rest as how you want. At this timing, it is best to relax your mood.」

Although I only slightly glanced, but the classroom that we are in, also have corpses. There are a few naked bodies of the girls on the ground, there are also corpses from the boys. They probably suffered the orc attack while they are participating in some group activity.

Did anyone escape? The windows are all shutted tightly, so I am afraid.....

No, better not think anymore. Just now I had thought about resting, and now I am moping.

「Kazu-chi, Kazu-chi.」

Mia pulled a corner of my shirt.

「If you want to do some unspeakable game with Arisu-chi, Tamaki-chi and I can face the other side.....」

「You don't have to worry about that sort of boring thing.」

I shook my head and rejected her suggestion firmly.

「Mmm, so you are the type who gets more excited when you are being watched?」

I used my fist to knock on Mia's head, she showed a shy smile. She probably feels happy fooling around with everyone. Well I can't do much about her—— I shrugged my shoulders.

Arisu revealed a shy smile and Tamaki also laughed loudly.

◆ ◆ ◆

After resting, we left the white room.

Arisu: Level 9 Spear Skill 4/Healing Magic 3 Skill Point 2

Chapter 42 – Middle School Suppression Operation 3

While invading, Arisu and Tamaki's classroom is also liberated from the orcs. Even though they saw their classmates' bodies, the 2 of them only clasped their hands together and prayed for a while.

「Now there is no time for us to cry.」

Tamaki said in a low tone, and hugged Arisu who is a bit down.

「Let's take revenge together, Arisu.」

「Okay.」

From the classroom at the south, you can see the courtyard from the railing. Although the campfire has extinguished, but beside the small mountain made from corpse, there are still about 20 orcs which are in tip top condition lazing around.

Tamaki is right, we cannot waste time here.

Luckily at this time, because of the influence from the light, the courtyard should not be able to see what is in the classroom clearly.

Even so, if we continue staying around, there is no telling what may happen. Before the orcs notice us, we left the classroom.

After that, we spent roughly 20 minutes suppressing the level 1 and basement of the main school building.

We saved 3 girls on level 1 and another in the basement, a total of 4 person.

Until now, we killed a total of 18 small fry orcs and 2 elite orcs.

「I want to ask you all to bring the girls we saved back to the Cultivating Centre first.」

I instructed Shiki-san.

「If there are more survivors, we should also consider how we can move them.」

Even if the girls we saved took Arisu's treatment, they are still very tired, and unable to even stand up.

This also can't be helped, they had spent a whole day under the violence of the orcs.

「I understand, all of you should be careful.」

Shiki-san and the others carried the powerless girls and left through the broken window.

Okay—— I turned to face Arisu and everyone. From their colours of the faces, they do not seem to be tired.

「By the way, if you want to go to the toilet, you should do it now.」

「I will not pee in my pants!」

Tamaki growled out like a wild dog.

「Roar~ Kazu-san really have no tact, right, Arisu.」

「Argh.....」

Arisu looked at me with some hesitation. What is it, my little angel, feel free to praise me.

「Kazu-san, yo..you only wanted to see Tamaki's perplexed expression right?」

Thank you for giving me sentence that was harsher than I have expected.

I shrugged my shoulders, like changing the topic to the nearby stairs and said:「Go, to the second storey.」

There are stairs at the 2 ends of the school building that can lead from level 1 to level 2, we are currently near the stairs on the left side.

The crow that went to investigate the stairs to level 2 had already came back.

According to the crow's report, there are a few orcs gathering along the corridor on level 2.

This is a bad news, as we will be discovered once we walked up the stairs.

I thought while I was biting the CalorieMate that I took from the bag.

Or we could go outside first, then climb the railings up to level 2. Our arm strength has risen due to «Mighty Arm», so this method should succeed. And with «Silent Field», we will not make any noise.

But this method is based on a premise—— which is that our hands must be empty.

Arisu's iron spear and Tamaki's giant axe are big and heavy, it would be tough bringing these 2 weapons to climb up to level 2.

Of course we could let someone climb up first then throw a rope down..... But in such a situation, that person is akin to being completely defenseless in an enemy territory, which I feel that the risk is too big.

「Mia, how about «Path Wall»?」

Rank 4 Earth Magic «Path Wall» is like how it is said, it is a magic that can open a hole on a wall. In other words, it can allow one to sneak past a wall without being discovered, most suited for a bank robbery.

As for the hole that was created with magic, it seems that it will disappear after a certain period of time.

「It is fine using «Path Wall» on the ceiling, but without a ladder, we can't climb up.」

「If we use «High Jump», can we reach?」

Rank 2 Wind Magic «High Jump» can greatly increase jumping power, as long as there is no weight on the body, it can let a person jump up to a tree branch.

「It should be possible, but we have to reach level 2 in a try.」

「Right, if the classroom above has orcs, then it will be dangerous when the landing fails.」

If they are just small fry orcs, they it is fine, but if we fall in front of an elite orc..... Even if Tamaki's skill rank is 5, I feel that it will be dangerous.

「To find ladders, there is no need to get back to the Cultivating Centre..... There should be some ladders that are commonly used somewhere in the campus?」

「That, Kazu-san. Things that take up a lot of space like ladders, in the middle school section, we always put them in the storeroom in front of the courtyard..」

Arisu said it with a face of apology. I see, currently it is filled with orcs at the courtyard, even if we have raised a few levels, facing 20 at once is still very tough.

And if we make trouble in the courtyard, the orcs on level 2 and 3 will discover our presence. Then the covert actions that we made painstakingly, will be wasted.

Okay, what should we do, I crossed my hands and thought.

「Right, there is a magic in Wind Magic that can make a person

invisible.]

「《Invisibility》is a Rank 3 Wind Magic, I can't use it yet.】

Indeed, but Tamaki and Mia has only 30 exp to next level, which means that we only have to defeat 2 more ordinary orcs.

Mia has 1 skill point left, so as long as she level up, then she can raise Wind Magic to Rank 3. Though we have to take a longer route..... should we go and gain some exp?

I felt that this seems like an single player RPG. Hmm, but it is better to gain some exp. I let the crow fly outside and search for some orcs that are alone and near the school building.

Before long, the crow came back to report. Situated behind the shoe cabinets on the right side side of the school building, there are 2 orcs. From the courtyard, it seemed to be a blind spot. This building has 2 entrances. From our position, the crow is talking about the shoe cabinets that are within that entrance which is the furthest away from us.

「I understand, I will finish them off now!】

Tamaki finished with a happy tone, and rushed out with her giant axe. Mia chased after, and casted 《Silent Field》for her.

After roughly about 2 minutes, we came to the white room and listen to the report that Tamaki and Mia leveled up.

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We gathered in the white room. With this, the 2 of their levels is now 8.

「Ah, and, Kazu-san, I found a surviving girl.」

「With the orcs?」

There are also girls captured in that sort of place? Although it is a bit regretful, but my heart seemed to be numbed, As long as she survived then she should be thankful—— I had already thought like that, separating my emotions and thoughts.

If it is possible, I hope that the survivors will become our power in the battlefield.

I hope that the person will began from tomorrow, to fight for the sake of surviving. Even if it is just one more person, gathering more companions, is also one of the aims of attacking the main school building. But Tamaki shook her head.

「No, that girl was hiding in the cabinet that stored the cleaning tools near the shoe cabinet. And Arisu, she is Sumire.」

「Oh~Sumire-chan is still alive? That's great!」

Arisu revealed a smile that was a vibrant as a flower blooming.
Ah, they are friends?

「Ah—— in other words, that girl called Sumire is fine..... am I right?」

「Mmm! She is very afraid, so she has been quietly hiding there since yesterday.」

Tamaki happily reported.

「Then, because she could not come out the whole of yesterday, so she peed her pants!」

「Why are you so happy about reporting that someone has peed her pants.....」

「Eh~ didn't Kazu-san like girls peeing in their pants?」

I looked at Arisu and Mia while speechless, and the 2 of them kept nodding their heads.

「I do not have that sort of interest.」

「Eh—— there is nothing wrong with this. Kazu-san is a guy,

having one or two perverted interest is also natural! I don't mind it at all!」

Oi oi, why is it only on this matter, that you seems like a very understanding girl? Arisu blushed, and glanced at me without a word.

No, you are mistaken. I am perfectly normal, that is nothing but Tamaki's delusion.

「Arisu, believe me.」

「Is it better for me to leak as well?」

Arisu held her breath while blushing, filling her abdomen with strength. What are you saying and doing?

Mia lightly patted Arisu's shoulders, and shook her head gently.

「No, not like that. It must be like desperately enduring but yet『no I can't, I am going to pee, don't look——』, then shuu and peed out.」

「You don't need to say those excessive stuff.」

I pulled Mia away from Arisu. Really, this girl has a bad influence on Arisu's education.

No, Arisu is older than her.

「Back to topic, that girl called Sumire, can she walk?」

「Probably so. Ah, but at that time I was very nervous, so I did not speak with Sumire-chan, so I do not know the exact details.」

「Why?」

「Because there is 『Silent Field』.」

Ah right—— I face-palmed. The area around Tamaki, is under the effect of the silent field.

「If that is so, how do you know she has been hiding there since yesterday?」

「That part is by charading.」

That is what we called linked by hearts—— Tamaki said it jokingly. I see, they have a good relationship.

「Then, it is better to let her hide a bit longer..... No, that should be pretty hard.」

I do not wish to spent too much time attacking the main

school building. From my view, decrease the number of the enemies moderately, at least confirm that the Cultivating Centre will be safe until tomorrow morning, and that will be fine.

I hope that we can retreat before the general orc and that beast-like monster appears.

Although I thought so, but asking the girl who was saved to endure a bit more is kind of cruel.

「Anyway, can you bring her over first?」

「Mmm, I understand. Then again, which one do you want?」

「Which?」

「Should I bring her to the toilet to change then come over, or just bring her directly over in her soaked pants?」

I squinted, staring at Tamaki unhappily.

「Let her change her clothes first.」

「Yes yes——」

I sighed.

「I will use the transceiver to contact with Shiki-san.」

Okay, the direction has been confirmed, next is regarding the use of the skill points.....

「Mia is of course raising her Wind Magic to Rank 3. As for Tamaki..... Since your Sword Skill can be raised to Rank 5, then we will do that?」

「Mmm, I feel that it's very good. Great—— my skill rank is finally above Arisu's, I am number 1!」

「Congrats, Tamaki.」

Arisu congratulated Tamaki directly. Aiya, Arisu is really a good kid, she is an angel.

Then again, Tamaki is really...

「Wh..what, why did Kazu-san show that sort of expression? It is as though I am an idiot who don't know how to see the situation.....」

「You knew?」

Tamaki pouted, showing her displease.

「Kazu-san is too much! Hey, Arisu, do you feel so too?」

Arisu revealed a troubled smile and looked at me.

「Reprimanding is also an expression of friendship.」

「Argh, well, but I will not be angry at Tamaki.....」

「Yes yes yes, it is fine, Kazu-san. I am best friends with Arisu!」

「Mmm—— forget it, just don't be too carried away.」

「I wouldn't be like that, my character is one that is very cautious, right—— Arisu!」

「Argh, this.....」

My eyes met with Arisu's, then she slowly turned away.

「Only good friends will understand each other well.」

「Oh~ what, I am obviously cautious okay? Even during exams I would not forget to write my name.」

「Such a thing like forgetting to write your name is something that will not happen even in a lifetime?」

「Tamaki will have such a time every year.....」

Argh, mmm—

Tamaki: Level 8 Sword Skill 4 → 5 / Physical 1 Skill Point 5 → 0

Mia: Level 8 Earth Magic 4 / Wind Magic 2 → 3 Skill Point 3 → 0

Even though there is some unease, we still left the white room.

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After returning back to the original place from the white room, I opened the transceiver, but Shiki-san did not reply. Ah— that's right, with the forest in between, they should not be able to receive radio waves.

Other than that, distance is another problem, this transceiver is really useless.

As I was considering such matters, Tamaki brought a girl back.

Chapter 43 – Middle School Suppression Operation 4

The name of the girl is Suginomiya Sumire, a friend of Arisu and Tamaki. She had 2 braids, and a frameless glasses, her body is on the slightly plump side.

I see, she is like a literature girl

The girl is wearing her uniform on the top but she is wearing a

bloomer on her bottom. That bloomer should be Tamaki's back up clothes.

She did not wear any socks so she is bare-footed. Mmm, because they are wet, well that can't be helped.

After Sumire and Arisu hugged, she kept lowering her head and bowing to me. Her body seems to be larger than Arisu and Tamaki by a size, but her attitude is very timid, making one link her to that of a frightened mouse.

According to Tamaki, when she passed the cabinets, because the cleaning tools inside moved, she nearly raised her axe and hack at the cabinet.

Mmm, Tamaki is indeed.....a absent-minded fool.

But if the cabinet suddenly shook, it is natural to be frightened by it.

Sumire expressed when the sounds in the surrounding suddenly disappeared, that is why she panicked. I had a lot of questions to ask her, but.....

Just as I was about to speak, Sumire's stomach gave a cute growl. Sumire pressed on her stomach and her face blushed.

「Sh——Do you want to eat CalorieMate? I can also give you my

waterbottle.]

After all if I have the will, I can summon as much food and water as I want. Moreover from this situation, Mia's MP will probably finish first.

Sumire happily bit on the CalorieMate. I told her that it is fine to answer while eating, then I asked:

「Did you see the animal that those orcs brought?」

Sumire blanked for a while and then shook her head.

I see, she did not know..... I thought I could get some intel from her.

「Ah, I seemed to have hear sounds of barking..... I feel that that bark is like a dog.」

「You weren't discovered?」

「Yes, the sound seemed to have echoed over from a distance away.」

That's right, if she was discovered, then she would not have been safe like this.

I recalled the map of the main school building that we

confirmed in the Cultivating Centre. Just mentioning, the map was drawn by Arisu and the others.

According to the map, even if we did not pass through the area that she hid in, there are also a few routes to the school, such as the stairs outside. That animal probably did not pass by anyway near the cabinet that Sumire hid in.

Sumire is very lucky, but because of her luck, hence we are unable to get new intel.

After I explained a simple overview of the situation to Sumire, I had her hide in a toilet.

Before we separated from Sumire, I gave all my CalorieMate to her, and she seemed to be very happy. Having a good appetite is a good thing.

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Talking about Rank 3 Wind Magic «Invisibility», it is a magic that can turn a person inside an invisible man.

From vision, it will be easier to understand it as a optical camouflage in some sci-fi animation movie.

Although it is same as other magic, I completely do not understand the principles behind this.

At Rank 3, this magic can last 3-4minutes. The clothes and objects that the person is wearing and holding will also become invisible.

The point about becoming invisible, will make someone think that this magic is very strong..... but it has a weak point—— that is once a vigorous motion is done, or contact with other living things happens, the invisibility effect will be gone.

We had gone through a Q & A in the white room just now.

We got to know that「other living things」does not include small creatures like mosquitoes and houseflies; other than that running, but moving your limbs and normal speaking also fulfils the condition of「vigorous motion」.

As for walking and talking slowly, it is still permissible.

As for using magic, since we have to do actions that makes sounds, hence using magic is also considered as a「vigorous motion」.

In the end the only things that we can do in the invisible state, is only walking slowly.

But that is good enough. Getting closer to the target while the enemy does not notice, is already an unnatural advantage. As

long as we use it with «Silent Field», this magic can become the best combination for stealth.

We can become an assassin that is completely silent and invisible, and sneak beside the enemy. Of course, if the enemy entered the «Silent Field»'s area, they will be unable to hear any sounds, and discover the abnormality.

To Arisu and Tamaki, the distance of 3 meters is already enough. When the opponent notices the abnormality, it is already too late. Because of the rule of slow movement, the inability to cast «Haste» becomes an obstruction, but its other benefits can cover up this.

Regarding if we are able to use magic in the effective area of «Silent Field», in the past I asked the computer about it before. The computer replied that the actions of making the sound is necessary but the sound itself is not that important.

Meaning if we did not make any sound, it will be fine. I conducted an experiment afterwards and confirmed it.

「The orcs in the corridor on level 2 are only standing near the middle of the corridor. Ignore them, and take care of the orcs inside the room first, start from the left side.」

After all we should kill as much orcs as possible on level 2, so we should take the most efficient method.

Mia cast «Invisibility» and «Silent Field» on Arisu and Mia. The sounds in the surrounding disappeared immediately.

I gave the permission to go ahead. Even though I can't see them, but since the sounds in the surrounding appeared again, hence I know that the 2 of them are moving.

「Mia, let's follow.」

「Mmm.」

After we, the 2 rearguards, also casted «Invisibility» and «Silent Field», we followed up to level 2.

The 2 orcs are standing in the middle of the corridor, seemingly very bored. Although they did not look towards our side, but I think they are planning to patrol.

I see, although the orcs knew the importance of being alert, but yet their attitude remains so lax?

In order not to let «Invisibility» lose its effect, we walked slowly forward, and peek at the interior of the room that Arisu and Tamaki went in.

There are only 1 elite orc and 1 ordinary orc in the room, and there are a few boys' corpse lying on the ground. The 2 orc

used the corpse's head as a ball to play around.

Arisu and Tamaki revealed themselves and attacked the 2 orcs. Tamaki used her axe to dish out a slash, chopping down the elite orc's head. While Arisu gave a strike with her spear, piercing through the small fry orc's neck.

The level up sound rang. Ah, I leveled up.

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The look of the white room is different from the past.

There is something like a coin vending machine installed in the middle of the room, and there are LCD screen on the machine, showing some words.

The place that was supposed to be used to insert coins, had a funnel shape in place of it, meaning it is for us to put something inside. What are we supposed to put? The 4 of us looked at each other.

「What is this——」

「What is this.....」

Facing Arisu and Tamaki who tilted their head in doubt, I asked these words to console them.

Next..... I looked at this coin vending machine-like thing again.

I got 2 questions—— what is this? Why did it appear here?

「Kazu-chi, you rose to level 10 right?」

「Mmm, that's right.」

「Is it an award for raising to level 10?」

I hadn't thought about that. Indeed she is Mia, the perfect example of a hikikomori.

「Before we touch it, it is better to ask the computer first.」

Hence the usual questioning time begins, and everyone began to ask questions on their computer.

Most of them are targeting the question on the coin vending machine-like object, and these are what we have understood:

This dispensing machine-like object is my reward for leveling up. As long as there is someone in the party who is level 10 and above, this machine will appear in the white room.

As for the name of the machine, the computer told us coldly to

name it ourselves.

This dispensing machine-like object is a machine to convert tokens into tools. The so-called tools not only includes solid objects, but also includes skills and special abilities like magic etc.

Or rather, skills and special abilities like magic are the main things.

The so-called tokens, seems to be referring to the red and blue gems that were dropped by the orcs when they die. Then from now these gems will be called red token and blue tokens.

Red tokens represents 1 point, while blue token represents 10 points.

I see, the value of the tokens that the elite orcs dropped are worth 10 times more? Although the exp is only 5 times more. But, I did feel that its strength is above 10 times.

Once we place the tokens into the machine then we cannot take it back. The tokens that we used in this room will also disappear once we return to the original place.

From a system's viewpoint, this is only natural. But until now, when we return to the original place, everything will be reverted back to the moment when we entered the white room. In other words, is this token system the only exception?

「Anyway, regarding the name of this machine, should we just call it Vending Machine?」

「Kazu-chi, you do not have the talent for naming.」

「Huh? Then please let us hear how Mia-sensei, who has a lot of taste, is going to name it.」

Mia gave a「ugh」sound, and lean back in fear.

「Argh, that..... Item Vendor(アイテムベンダー)?」(TL note: Mia just said it in english instead of japanese)

「You are just changing it to English.」

「From a chunibi's viewpoint, this is correct.」

Mia showed a triumph expression and gave me a V sign. She is only a Year 1, what exactly is she talking about. I looked at Arisu and Tamaki, wanting to hear about their opinion.

「Anything is fine.」

「Yes, we will leave it to you.」

Mmm, that is true—— Name what so ever, anything is fine.

「Then let's call it Item Vendor(アイテムベンダー).」

No, wait, I suddenly have a certain idea, and hence entered it into the computer.

Q: Regarding the machine mentioned, can the other students who reached level 10 use it?

A: YES

Q: Even the students that we have yet to have contact with, are they included in the 「other students」?

A: YES

「Can this be used to transmit messages?」

I looked at the 3 of them. To be able to transmit information to people who we have yet to contact with, I feel that this suggestion is quite attractive.....

Ah, but, this also means that it will be transmitted to those people? Which is Shiba and the people from high school section.

「Kazu-chi, there is a very important question.」

Mia lifted her index finger while saying

「The first one to reach level 10, is it Kazu-chi?」

「Ah—— it is possible.」

I tried asking the computer but I did not get any reply. From the impressions until now, the controller of this computer, have a neutral attitude towards all of us.

Even though we did not get any confirmation, but Mia's prediction is probably correct. If not, the computer would not have asked us to name it.

Okay, then how shall we use this little privilege.....

「For instance, if we name this machine as『Gather at the Cultivating Centre』, then we can let the others know that we are using the Cultivating Centre as a base.」

「We can't do that.」

Mia refuted the suggestion.

「We still do not know if the survivors that leveled up to level 10 are going to be our friends.」

She who wanted to go to the high school section for the sake of helping her elder brother, had actually said such words decisively, causing me to go into shock. Mia is indeed.....

「Oi, Kazu-chi, you should listen carefully..」

「Mmm, mmm..」

「The ending of a zombie movie often makes one feel that humans are scarier than zombies.」

In the end she is talking about movies?

.....No... I see. The things that she had wanted to say, is surprising close to what I had imagined, and also regarding the scene that I saw during the investigation of the high school section.

Which is—— this girl is actually quite keen. She knew the situation clearly. Because she loved to play jokes daily, so I did not notice it.

Mia raised her head and looked at me, with no changes to her usual expressions. But that pair of eyes made me feel a bit sorrowful and a bit lonely.

Did she notice that I have investigated the high school section? That I did not trust them completely, making her disappointed? But currently it is not suitable to raise the matter on the high school section, that is the conclusion that Shiki-san and I have come to after discussion.

Making everyone concentrate on the middle school section, if

we tell them too much extra information, it may make them confused.

I also agreed with Shiki-san's considerations, hence I am moving with her instructions.

「Your thinking is right.」

In reality, I never had the thoughts of naming the machine as 「Gather at the Cultivating Centre」. If that guy have his eyes on us, then I will not be able to take it. But how should we use this naming privilege effectively.....

「That, I wish to name it. Can you give that privilege to me?」

「I am fine with it, what do you want to do?」

「I wish to pass a message to my brother, of course that is if he is still alive. I want to tell him that I am still alive.」

「I see..... Mmm, then you can use it.」

This to us, indeed has no benefits; but to her, it is very important.

But there is just a problem, if her brother becomes an enemy, then what will happen? But Mia did not wish to expose where she is, so there shouldn't be any problem. After all the moment

we used the naming power, we would have exposed that there was someone who had already reached level 10.

『What name are you going to give it?』

Mia lowered her head and thought about it for a while, then she raised her head.

『Just call it『Mia Vendor』.』

『Is it good to use your name to name it?』

『Because my brother is stupid, so I have to use a name that can accurately convey the message.』

Eh, she had also passed her absolute trust in her brother to me. But the possibility that her brother is still alive..... is rather small. The name Mia is rarely seen, so as long as her brother is still alive and that he has reached level 10, he would understand the meaning from Mia.

I will take it as understanding her wish to tell her relatives that she is still alive. Since this matter is important to her, then I will forget about it. I thought also while typing the words into the computer.

『Now back to the question, what should we do with this Mia Vendor?』

「Mmm, now that I think about it carefully, this sounds like I am actually a merchandise.」

「You never thought about this?」

I could not help but tsukkomi.

Chapter 44 – Item Vendor

Okay, regarding this machine that looks like a coin vending machine, which is Mia Vendor——

According to Q&A, this is a machine that can turn tokens into abilities or tools. The ones who can use this, are the people who are in this white room.

「What are your thoughts, Mia?」

「It seems like a remedy, but it is extremely suspicious.」

Indeed—— the 2 of us who are more familiar with games, looked at each other and sighed. While Arisu and Tamaki's faces are in baffled expression.

「Kazu-san, what does that mean?」

「First of all, if it is a remedy, then there shouldn't be a need for tokens to exchange things. And the owner of this white room —— let's assume that it is the person who controlled the

computer—— he is a person who will not answer when it reaches a crucial point.」

「Hmm, he is fair, yet very evil.」

Hearing our opinions, Arisu thought about it slightly.....

「But, the owner of this room gave us skills.」

「Including this, all of the happenings are unable to let us understand the meaning behind the other party's intentions, hence Mia and I are troubled. Because if we don't use skills, we would be unable to survive, so until now I am unable to refute this.」

But this Mia Vendor, it has a different feeling. I am unable to say what is different, but I feel that the other party seemed to have other intentions.

「For instance, how would Mia explain the meaning behind this action?」

「Something like all of these are for the sake of reclaiming the tokens.」

「The all of these, is referring to.....」

「Which is summoning this mountain into this world, then

letting the orcs attack here, until us getting the skills—— all of these.]

This is something that is not impossible.....

Then isn't it okay if the owner of the white room goes and directly defeat these orcs? Since he is able to do things in a roundabout way, then such a task like defeating orcs shall be easy.....

「Or perhaps it is a setting like this—— this world has a certain existence like a god, but he is unable to make a move, so he needs other people to do these stuff.」

「What anime is this?」

「Games, animes, light novels and mangas.」

I see, so this is a common setting in stories? The higher existences in most of the works, are unable to act by themselves, or have certain inconveniences in some areas.

Of course, those are for the sake of the story's development, if not the main characters will lose the meaning of their existence.

So from a viewpoint of reality, so what's about it? If a higher existence really exist, then what is his aim.....

A presence that can demonstrate power on their behalf——that point is definitely confirmed.

If not, the skill system will not exist. It is obvious that there is an unnatural force at work, and it is playing around with us.

Perhaps there is someone laughing at us as we roll around on the ground. If that is so, then from the start.....

No—— I shook my head. If there is true, then it is also some small issue, it has nothing to do with their intentions.

What we have to mind now, is only one thing——

If this unknown fellow enters the fray, will he be on our side or against us from now on?

「Regarding if we should use this Mia Vendor actively, what do you think of it Mia?」

「Rather than discussing if we should use this machine actively, I think we have to try it first.」

I see, Mia is right. But..... I could not help but sigh when I saw the required token amount one the LCD screen.

「So expensive.....」

Surprisingly, the cheapest things are actually magic. Like Rank 1 Magic «Read Language», needs 100 tokens.

Rank 2 Magic, needs 400 tokens; Special Skill Shield, need 200; Special items, items replication set: Class A needs 200, Class B need 2000.

Other than that, there are also weird things like notebooks which needs 250 tokens. The Q&A shows that if we write the words in it while we are in the white room, then we can bring it outside. Hmm—— it is indeed convenient, but that is like charging too much.

As the magic products only showed until level 2, hence I tried asking the computer. The answer I gotten was that as the person's level grows, the types of product will also increase.

The tokens we have currently are only 8 blue and 30 red, the rest of them are left in the Cultivating Centre. Argh, because none of us had thought that we will know the use of such things at such a timing.

「We only have enough for Rank 1 Magic.」

「Which is to say—— what do we do with it after buying?」

I asked again regarding this portion, that the below is what I

have understood:

After inserting the necessary number of tokens and choosing the item into the Mia Vendor, the computer will choose the selection screen, then we just have to follow the instructions on the computer.

Then why not just let all the procedure be done on the computer..... why do you say it is for reclaiming the tokens, and are these procedures necessary?

Regarding the part about magic, we have to choose one of the same Ranked magic that we have learnt currently and give up on it, then we can replace it with the new magic.

Taking myself as an example, it means I have to give up 1 of the Rank 1 magic in Summon Magic or Support Magic. if it was me, I will replace magic like «Summon Cauldron».

Regarding the part about special Skills, we have to use Skill points to learn them.

In other words, to get the Rank 1 Skill Shield, we have to use 1 Skill Point. If we use 2 Skill point then we can raise it to Rank 2. Hmm—— other than 200 tokens, we still have to add in Skill points.

We just have to place a tool into the items replication set, then

we can obtain another similar good tool.

What kind of Skill is that? No, even if I tsukkomi magic, it is useless.

Just a mention, Class A items replication set is a square box, it seems like it can put in something around the size of a soccer ball. The Class B items replication set seems to have a length of a metre on a side.

The items replication set can only be used in this white room, and it can only be used once. if we can shove it inside the box, then we can replicate a few things at one time. But there are also things that cannot be replicated, which is like tokens, but that is also natural——

I tried asking a question:「If we fill it with bullets, then can we replicate all of it at once」, and the answer is YES. Oh is it~~

Okay, forget it. What I should be considering now, is not something about others.

「According to our current tokens on hand, we can only buy Rank 1 magic.」

There are over 20 Rank 1 magic. Although it is troublesome, but I still ask the computer one by one.

According to my rough investigation, the Rank 1 Magic that we can buy, is roughly split into 2 types.

One type are those magics that are slightly weaker than normal Rank 1 magic. Even if we rank up the magic to Rank 2, the effect after using it is also equivalent to normal Rank 1 magic. Among them, we can obtain similar effects in normal low-ranked magic.

Ah, since that is so, no wonder we can buy it. So in the end we have to use the magic Skills that we got from Skill points as our main, and these are just for support?

「Like Kazu-chi buying them for self-defense since he has no attack magic, is that how it works?」

Like Mia said, these magic are only complementary abilities for people or parties with Skills that are unbalanced.

The other type is convenient magic. For instance «Read Language» can make the user read all the text, a magic that can make the user understand meanings. If we are going to live in a foreign civilization, then we will need this magic.

Foreign culture? If this is another world, then there are probably other humans living in these lands. When I had a Q&A on the orcs, the computer's reply was 「monsters called as orcs by the natives」.

In other words, there are other humans who called them『orcs』?

『If we really have to buy, then we should choose one from 『Read Language』,『Magic Hand』or『Ghost Tired』.』

『Magic Hand』can create a slow moving invisible hand, and allow the user to freely wield it. Objectively speaking, this magic can lift other people's skirt secretly, but it can't hold a sword and it can't do intensive movements like throwing. According to its uses, it shouldn't be a very effective magic.

『Ghost Tired』is a magic that can only be used when you are touching the other party, and it can make the other party tired. Although it is not very striking to the eye but it seems quite useful. The problem is the requirement to touch the other party..... This magic is probably very suitable for Arisu.

Other than that, the magic that can directly attack is probably 『Tinder』which light things up. Regarding 『Tinder』, even though Arisu and Tamaki said that it is convenient, but.....

『Mmm, just use a lighter or something to light it.』

Mia's intelligent sentence settled everything. That's right, if the magic can be replaced by a simple tool of civilisation, so we do not need it. In the list of 20 Rank 1 Magic, about half of

them are magic like that.

「I vote for 《Read Language》.」

Mia said. This magic indeed does not make one feel that it is useless. After everyone agreed, I deposited 20 red tokens, 7 blue tokens into the Mia Vendor, and selected 《Read Language》 on the LCD screen.

A melody came from the computer behind, as though like the sound when you received an email. I looked at my computer and discovered content on it—— to get the new magic 《Read Language》, you have to select a magic that you have currently to exchange for it.

I controlled the cursor and chose 《Summon Cauldron》. Good bye, cauldron.

《Summon Cauldron》 this magic, is indeed useful if you want to discuss. But if we want a cauldron, we can go to the cooking classroom in the Cultivating Centre or dig in the kitchen in the dormitories.

And even though I got 《Read Language》, this magic did not disappear from the screen on Mia Vendor. Very good, the worry that 「every tool would be first come, first served」 disappears.

Hence, there is no need to worry about things in the future. If it is possible, I hope to discuss with everyone——at least with Shiki-san——, and get the necessary stuff.

Anyways I got the new magic『Read Language』, then we left the white room.

Returning to the original place.

Kazuhisa: Level 10 Support Magic 4 / Summon Magic 3 Skill Points 4

Chapter 45 – Middle School Suppression Operation 5

At the nearest classroom near the stairs on level 2, their battle has just ended, and Mia and I also entered.

Because of the battle, Arisu and Tamaki's『Invisibility』lose their effect but the effect of『Silent Field』remains.

When casting this magic, Mia's wind magic's rank is 3, so the effective time is 3 minutes to 4minutes 30 seconds. As long as we cast『Invisibility』immediately, there should be enough time to attack another classroom.

Actually, if Mia help them to cast magic, her own『Invisibility』will also lose its effect. If we have to add all of them back, it will waste quite a lot of MP.

But stealth is the key of this battle plan so we cannot be stingy

with MP, we have to do all that we can—— these have already been discussed in the white room.

Mia showed herself and cast «Invisibility» towards Arisu and Tamaki.

We can feel that Arisu and Tamaki have already left the room. Although we cannot see them, and can't hear them, but we felt a slight scent blow past..... No, that perhaps that is just in my mind.

Actually, Rank 3 Support Magic has a magic called «See Invisibility».

That is a magic that can see through invisibility. As long as I cast this magic, I will be able to see Arisu and Tamaki now, but.....

This time, it is to let the other 2 get used to the state of invisibility, so I did not cast it on them. But I myself also wish to confirm that everyone has disappeared, hence I also did not cast it on myself.

If we are used to it in the future, perhaps there will be a day where we will add «See Invisibility» into our plans.

Next, I sent the crow towards the corridor to check the situation. The crow raised one of its wings, expressing that the

plan is successful.

When we looked in the corridor, the 3 orcs that are guarding the corridor are already lying on the ground.

Arisu and Tamaki are already gone.

Perhaps they have already entered the nearby classroom.

They are really smart, the next action is a race against time. Once the orcs in the classroom sees the corridor, they will discover the existence of intruders.....

Then at this moment, we are delivered to the white room. Arisu leveled up.

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Mia Vendor is in the middle of the white room, seemingly the same as just now, without any change.

Arisu and Tamaki defeated another 3 orcs in the next room and there are 3 more orcs left in the next room. Which is to say that they level up in the middle of a battle?

「And there are girls who are still alive.」

Tamaki mentioned. From her dark expression, the situation that those girls are in, must be very bad, perhaps it is until the extent that they are barely alive.

Maybe they will feel that being alive is already a blessing? Or regret that they are still alive? That we will not know.

What we can do——is to save their lives. If they are willing, then we will use them as soldiers.

I also felt that I am too much.

But considering the future, this strategy is the best. At least, Shiki-san and I will bear the responsibility for such a cruel strategy, and our decisions are quite firm.

「How many?」

「At least 2..... Probably 3.」

That is really a lot. But, it is natural to be happy that there are survivors.

「Arisu, after returning, you should cast 『Heal』and 『Cure Mind』 on them first, then immediately head for the next classroom.」

「I understand, we must finish it before 『Silent Field』 ends right?」

「Yes, we will deal with the rest of the stuff.」

「Okay. Th...that, but.....」

Arisu glared at me while squinting.

「You cannot stare at a girl's naked body.」

「I will do my best to respect your wishes.」

I lowered my head. I will definitely see them, there is nothing I can do about it.

But Arisu's jealous look is also very cute, so even if she gets angry at me, I am fine with it.

I seem to be too easy-going.

Yes, if this sort of situation continues, I will probably become numb to it. Even so, as compared to being down and worried, I feel that laughing casually is better.

The girls who are harmed can be replaced, but we are irreplaceable. In this world, humans are not equal. Even so, Arisu is still a bit unhappy.

「Kazu-san, there is one more thing.」

Tamaki said with some difficulties.

「The window frame in the classroom is burnt.」

「What is going on?」

「Mmm—— I am also not very clear about it, anyway it just feels that it is completely burnt. Other than that, there is a charred body..... I feel that it should be that of a teacher's.」

Charred? Was it burnt by the orcs for fun?

I remembered the low-class campfire in the school grounds.
Hmm—— I am confused. No matter what, we should take a look first.

Luckily, the orcs in the corridor has been finished off by Arisu and the others, so there will not be any danger of us being discovered by orcs immediately.

Even though Arisu leveled up, this time I want her to keep her skill points, because I wish to raise her Spear Skill to Rank 5 as fast as possible.

Arisu: Level 10 Spear Skill 4/Healing Magic 3 Skill Point 4

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We returned to the original place.

I quickly picked up the red gems on the corridor, and Mia also helped to pick them up. Just as we finish picking up all the gems, Arisu and Tamaki walked out from the neighbouring classroom. It seems that they have already defeated all the orcs inside, and done treatment for all the girls who were saved.

Because the effect of «Silent Field» is still effective, so we could only nod to each other. Mia and I switched place with Arisu and Tamaki, and entered the neighbouring classroom.

The curtain in the classroom is indeed burnt, and there is still some burnt smell lingering in the air. But there is a stronger scent of odour, so I can't smell the charred smell too much.

There is a charred male body in a corner of the classroom.

Beside it, there are 4 more bodies of male students who had their head chopped off.

In another corner, we discovered 3 powerless and naked girls. Their bodies are stained with the fluids of the orcs, there seems to be no external injuries, it should be because Arisu used magic to heal them.

Arisu should have also casted «Cure Mind» on them too, but

when these girls saw me, they also did not try to cover up their bodies.

Facing these girls, we are indeed helpless. Before Shiki-san return, we could only let them endure first.

But everyone is still able with their limbs intact, that is really great. If their hands or legs are chopped off, then it will be hard for them to fight.

Basically if we use «Cure Deficit» of Rank 4 Healing Magic, there is the chance of recovering lost parts.

But Arisu's healing magic is currently only Rank 3, so she is unable to use this magic.

I called the 2 summoned gray wolves into this room to wait, and have them as bodyguards. When the girls saw the wolves, they are all shocked.

Ah—— it is natural to be scared. But if they scream, we will also be troubled. Due to the effect of «Silent Field» still being effective, hence I moved my hands around to signal to them that the 2 wolves are safe.

But they are completely unable to understand.

And feel that I am like an idiot.

I looked to the side and discovered that Mia is laughing until she was on the ground. Damn fellow.

There is no other way, I could only wait for «Silent Field» to lose its effect and then use language to convey that the gray wolves are our comrades. Really, see these 2 little dogs with their adorable eyes, what is there to be afraid of?

No, they will indeed cause others to feel afraid. Mmm, sorry.

While I was thinking, the naked girls shook their heads.

「I thought it was that weird dog that those pigs brought along.....」

「Wait, that——」

When I had wanted to get closer to ask questions, I was caught by Mia by the sleeve.

「Kazu-chi, this is not a gentleman's behaviour, you have to turn back.」

「No, I was thinking——」

Just now when I was doing a mime, you are still laughing until you fell onto the ground.

「Arisu-chi is glaring at you？」

I quickly turned my head, and saw Arisu standing at the door with a sad face, I could not help but feel a bit upset.

「Kazu-san, we have looked through all the classrooms. We defeated a total of 2 elites, 9 small fries. The survivor is only this girl.」

Tamaki used her shoulder to support a naked girl. I see, she is the last survivor on level 2?

「Also, Kazu-san's behaviour made Arisu's mood turn bad.」

I know.

Ah ah enough. As compared to this, the 「monster dog」 from their words is the most important thing currently. That is perhaps the 「fellow」 that I saw using «Remote Viewing».

The animal that was bigger than the gray wolves, beside the general orc.

「What does that dog look like?」

I maintain the stance of back facing the naked girls to question them.

Even though I can't see the girls, but I feel that they are laughing bitterly. Mmm, being able to laugh is also a good thing.

「It is a black dog, and it can spew flames from its mouth. Then the teacher began to burn.....」

Spew flames from its mouth? In game terms, it means a breath attack?

Aiya, since there are already monsters like orcs, even if enemies that seems like monsters from RPG appears, it is also not that surprising. I thought about it momentarily that perhaps one day such a fellow may appear.

As for the reason to why I had thought that such enemies will appear, there is another point supporting it.

In Rank 4 Supporting Magic, there is a magic called «Resist All». This magic can target one of the attributes in Earth, Water, Fire and Wind, and create a strong resistance against that attribute attacks.

What is attribute attacks? Damn, just how similar to RPG do you want to make the system into? So—— this means that those sort of attack exist. After seeing the explanations, I had cursed at the computer for a while.

Just a mention, this is something that happened yesterday. That time Arisu who was beside me who is raging, revealed a bothered smile.

「Hellhound or Cerberus?」

Mia spoke in a whisper. Ah, then again, RPG have such a monster inside. Since it is a black dog, then we can just call it Hellhound.

Hmm, I feel that Cerberus sounds super strong, so I wish to put it in the range of Hellhounds. Although we gave it a weaker sounding name, but the strength of the enemy will not change.

「Anyway, let's call it Hellhound.」

「Hmm, it feels that it will be difficult. Kazu-chi, what should we do?」

I thought about it for a while. If we linger here too long, there could be danger.

Honestly speaking, once we meet the hellhound and the general orc together, I feel that things will turn bad.

But the 2 seems to be at the same place, so there is no way to separate and deal with them, then.....

「Guess we could only retreat?」

I whispered, and looked at Mia. Mia gave a 「mmm」, and nodded. Which means she agrees?

Then is Arisu and Tamaki.....

At this moment, the wireless transceiver sent Shiki-san's voice, it seems that they have already returned back to somewhere near the school building.

「The timing is just right.」

I said in a small voice.

Chapter 46 – Middle School Suppression Operation 6

I used the wireless transceiver to contact with Shiki-san, and told her about the girl who is hiding in level 1—— which is about Sumire.

Other than that I also explained about the matter with the level 2 survivors, and told her the information about the black dog that they saw.

「Has level 2 been cleared?」

「It is mostly done, next is only level 3.」

「It ends here huh, I feel that your decision to retreat is correct.」

Shiki-san's judgement is quite fast.

When it is time to retreat, we should retreat.

We still have some strength, hence we have to retreat.

As long as we can return safely, we can come back again.

It seems that a certain military man had said something like that. Now that we have entered a real battlefield before, the meaning of these words has really got to me.

I looked at the ceiling.

Perhaps there are surviving girls on level 3. Maybe they are suffering under the abuse of the orcs right now, even though they are about to die, they are still hanging on, hoping for our rescue.

If we retreat here, they will probably never be able to see tomorrow's sun.

About this, Shiki-san had mentioned it before.

It is because the time limit is approaching, that is why we attacked the dangerous main school building.

But now, that's the limit, we cannot take anymore risks. The girls who are on still awaiting rescue on level 3, are abandoned by us just like that.

「Mmm, from my MP, doing it like this is correct.」

「Mia, but then——」

Tamaki looked at Mia with a protesting expression, but Mia just slowly shook her head.

「We cannot fail, not even 1 mistake can be made.」

Hearing that, Tamaki kept quiet. These words are very apt. Tamaki lowered her head with unsatisfied expression on her face.

「This is also something that cannot be helped, Kazu-senpai?」

Arisu seems to be unsatisfied with my decision too, but she who believes in me, swallowed back her words.

「Mmm, just until here. Until now, everything has been proceeding smoothly, but once we reach level 3, it may not be so. Moreover there are unknown enemies up there, the risk is too great.」

「B..but, Kazu-san——」

Tamaki raised her head, still unwilling to give up. I looked at her.

「Th..that, Kazu-san, perhaps there are survivors up there.」

「I know, but we still have to retreat.」

Tamaki looked at me with an almost crying expression on her face, Arisu placed her hand on her shoulder.

「Believe in Kazu-san, okay?」

Tamaki closed her mouth as though she is desperately enduring something. Her teeth are clenched tightly while she kept on shaking her head, and her ponytails shook vigorously up and down.

「Sorry, I actually made such a selfish request, that was too pathetic of me.」

「Don't say that.」

I placed my hand on Tamaki's head, and caress it gently.

I can understand her feelings. But before that, choosing a path that everyone can survive is my responsibility.

Okay since we are going to leave, then follow the plan. I asked the girls that we saved 「if they could move」, the girls then attempted to stand up even though their steps are unstable.

But in the midst they became unstable, thankful Arisu and Tamaki helped to support them. It seems that wishing for them to move by themselves..... is a bit hard. Forget it, this is something that can't be helped.

「I understand, I will call Shiki-san and the others over.」

I used the transceiver to get the support party up to level 2. In the meanwhile, I had Arisu and Tamaki keep a lookout at the corridor. Shiki-san and the others with Sumire, walked up the stairs nervously.

「Kazu-san, Sumire-chan and these girls, are they the only 4?」

「Mmm.」

We cannot drag it any longer. The 3 in the classroom, and the one that Tamaki brought over—— I handed the 4 of them to Shiki-san and the others.

「Okay, now we just follow the order and go down the stairs.....」

Just everyone came out to the corridor——

We just happen to bump into 3 orcs that are walking down from level 3.

Maybe it is time for a change of shift, or maybe they wanted to come and rape the girls that are here.

The orcs got a shock and stayed motionless on the spot.....

Anyway the timing is really bad.

I immediately shouted out:

「Arisu, Tamaki!」

「Yes!」

「Understood!」

Arisu and Tamaki closed in to the orcs quickly. Even though they are in a panic, they still gave a warning cry upwards, and made a pose for engaging.

But it is too late.

Tamaki closed the distance between them in a moment.

Then she used her giant axe to split one of the orcs into halves.

At this timing, Tamaki and Mia leveled up, and we are sent to the white room.

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In the white room, we looked at each other. This is bad—— everyone gave a troubled expression.

』

「Level 3 should have noticed the situation just now..... right?」

「They should have noticed.」

I do not know how many orcs are on level 3, but they will probably gather first then come and attack us.

Even if it is just a little bit, until Shiki-san and the others leave, we have to buy as much time as possible.

「Arisu and Tamaki will take charge of blocking the stairs, as for the space inbetween——」

「There is only this method. But they were to use the stairs on the other side.....」

I am very clear on what Arisu is worried about. There are stairs on the left and right side of the main school building, and both route can access level 1 to 3 and even the rooftop.

If the orcs were to come down from both stairs, there will be a team that will reach level 1. Then Shiki-san and the others will be in danger.

What should I do? I crossed my arms and think, and without noticing, I looked towards Mia.

「Yes, how about using 『Path Wall』？」

「Hmm, are we opening a hole in the ceiling? Or on the ground?」

「No, we will open it on the wall. If we open a hole in the external wall of the classroom at the south side , then we will be seen clearly by the courtyard side. But if we open it at the the classroom of the north side, then it will lead us to inside of the building. If we just down directly, we will be able to escape into the forest.」

「Oh oh.」

Mia clapped her hands with a「pat」, seemingly very impressed with my idea. Okay, the strategy is decided.

Tamaki: Level 9 Sword Skill 5／Physical 1 Skill Point 2

Mia: Level 9 Earth Magic 4／Wind Magic 3 Skill Point 2

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After returning to the original place, I called Shiki-san who was lending her shoulder to the girls.

「To the classroom at the north side! We will open a hole in the wall, all of you will jump down!」

Just these few words, Shiki-san seemed to have understood everything, she turned and called out to the others.

In this timing, Mia rushed into the classroom at the north side.

She opened her hand towards the wall inside that was facing outside and casted «Path Wall», causing the wall to change shape.

I don't know if the windows will be affected, hence I had Mia used her magic on the place where there are no windows.

In the end, a big hole that was big enough for 2 person to stand side by side was opened on the wall.

On the other side of the hole, we could see the inside of the school and the forest is nearby it.

We also rush into the same classroom together.

I ran to the hole there and kick away the surrounding tables

and chairs, opening a path for Shiki-san and the others.

Since the situation has become like this, there is no need to worry about the ones above. I created the noise without any hesitation.

「Come quickly!」

「Understood.」

Shiki-san supported the girl that she is helping, and jumped down first.

But she didn't expect her landing to fail and both of them fell on the ground.

But she climbed up immediately and look upwards here.

Good, she seems fine.

「Th..that, it's so high.....」

「Sumire-chi, do your best.」

Mia slapped the butt of Sumire who is still hesitating.

「Hurry, while we could still hold on.」

With Sumire as the first, the girls who were rebuked nodded their heads frantically, and jumped off one by one. As a side note, Mia is younger than them. Forget it, since things have progressed to this, age is no longer important.

On the other hand, Arisu and Tamaki are fighting at the entrance of the classroom. They have defeated the initial few orcs, and defeated another 4 orcs that appeared as reinforcements.

Then the 2 of them met with the third wave which is the 2 elite orcs.

Facing 2 elite orcs, even for the 2 of them, they could not avoid a hard fight.

The elite orcs swung the giant axe, attacking violently. I quickly rush to them, and touch Arisu who draw some distance away from the fight.

「《Haste》」

Arisu's body is surrounded by red light in an instant, and her movements become very nimble. Making use of the opening from the elite orc's surprise, Tamaki moved back.

「Kazu-san, please.」

「Okay, 『Haste』。」

Tamaki's body is also surrounded by red light.

Tamaki jumped forward. Facing the giant axe that the elite orc had swung in front of her, and shortened the distance between them.....

She gave a blow that was full of vigor, but this blow only hit the lightbulb on the ceiling. No, she deliberately destroyed the lightbulb.

The broken glass fell on the ground, and in that instant, the elite orcs stopped moving in confusion.

Taking chance of the opening, Tamaki dashed into the opponent's range.....

She swung the giant axe, and pulled out the fruit knife from her bosom.

She had wanted a back-up weapon, so I gave her that knife, and strengthened it with 『Hard Weapon』.

Tamaki held the fruit knife in a reverse grip and swung upwards strongly, cutting open the elite orc's throat. The fruit knife that was casted with 『Hard Weapon』, cut opened the bronze-coloured strong skin easily. Just this blow, nearly cut

the half of the elite orc's throat.

The elite orc was taken down by Tamaki's sudden blow, and its blue blood spray out like a fountain.

「Good, I did it!」

Tamaki kept the fruit knife and picked up the giant axe on the ground and went to support Arisu. The 2 of them attacked ferociously together, and finished off the other elite orc in no time.

And I leveled up at this moment.

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Even though we came to the white room, we also do not have anything else to discuss.

「I am going to raise the Rank of Support Magic.」

This battle has already ended. For the next battle, it is better to raise the power of Support Magic. The others does not have any differing views.

Next is just to retreat, then we will finally be out of danger.

I clicked enter.

Kazuhisa: Level 11 Support Magic 4 → 5 / Summon Magic 3 Skill Points 6 → 1

We returned to the original place.

And heard the footsteps of the orcs coming down from level 3.

「Okay, let's escape through the hole!」

I shouted out and jumped down from the hole. I used my hands to support myself so as to divide the landing force. And my legs do not feel too numb, perhaps it is because of my level up, but I feel that my body has become more muscular.

I quickly let out some space and Mia jumped down after me, followed by Arisu and Tamaki, then the 2 wolves.

All of a sudden, I felt a sudden fear in my whole body.

I raised my head and looked up.

Something broke the windows on level 3 and dropped down, landing somewhere near me.

That is a creature which moves with 4 legs and is bigger than the gray wolf. It's a black gigantic dog.

That dog is somewhere very near me.

The ground began to give out sounds of cracking, and began to shaking intensively. I nearly fell on the ground but luckily I managed to hang on.

When I raise my head, a gigantic creature that was bigger than 3m was in front of me, that pair of red glowing eyes are glaring at me.

Fear caused me to remain motionless.

Chapter 47 – Middle School Suppression Operation 7

On the asphalt ground nearby the school.

A black dog is in front of me. Though I say it's a dog, but its body is gigantic, with a length of 3m, it can't be compared with the gray wolves.

Which is to say, this fellow is actually this big..... when I saw it through the crow's investigation, it had shrunk its body into a ball, so I hadn't noticed it.

Now that it is standing straight, with its body fully stretched, and ready.

That pair of ruby red eyes kept on staring at me. Shit, I am completely being locked on, it has treated me as a target.

If this fellow is the same as the name that we have given it, a real hellhound from the legends, then coupled with the information that we have gotten today.....

The hellhound opened its mouth, a flame flickered in the depths of its reddish black tongue..... then it sucked in a breath.

A sack like thing situated below the hellhound's throat, expanded like a balloon.

That is an amazing organ, an ordinary dog does not have it.

Hence I can also understand, that is.....

「Kazu-san!」

Arisu wish to rush to my side, but because she had lost her balance due to landing, it is the same for Tamaki and my gray wolf familiars.

So there is no one that could protect me currently.

This is fine.

I hope that the attack will only be targeted at me.

「《Resist All: Fire》.」

I casted magic on myself.

Immediately, the red flames that was spewed from the hellhound's mouth engulfed my entire body.

So hot. I gave a groan and rolled on the ground. Even with defensive magic, it can't block this degree of heat?

My skin is burning, sounds of my hair burning can be heard. I used my hands to cover my eyes.

My throat feels awful, like my lungs are burnt. I retreated 1 step, 2 steps.....

「《Air Blast》.」

It's Mia's voice. Fresh air covered my skin. I raised my head and took a deep breath.

I look to the side. The flames spewed from the hellhound's mouth is redirected by the strong wind, and the nearby woods are all burnt.

The hellbound glared at Mia with hatred. It took its sight away from me, lowering its body, as though it wanted to pound on Mia.



But, before that——

「You bastard!」

Tamaki jumped out nimbly, and raised her giant axe, closing to the hellhound.

Her whole body is still surrounded by the red glow of «Haste». Tamaki quickly closed their distance before the hellhound could react. The gigantic black dog reacted towards the incoming threat, and wanted to step back.

But it is too late. Tamaki swung down the giant axe, and cut a piece of skin on the front leg of the hellhound. Blue blood sprayed, and turned into flames that burn, part of them even burnt Tamaki's gym clothes.

「Wh..what is this!」

Tamaki panickedly threw down the axe, wanting to use her hands to pat off the fire on her clothes. The hellhound took the chance and put some distance between them.....

Then it suck in a breath strongly.

「You wish.」

This time it was Arisu who rush towards the hellhound. Very

good, that is the time. I ran to Tamaki and placed my hand on her shoulder.

「『Resist All: Fire』, this should deal with it slightly.」

The instant the magic was cast, the flames on the gym clothes extinguished, it is really effective.

「Th..thank you, Kazu-san.」

Tamaki's exposed neck had some burn injuries. Injuries of this extent can be cured with recovery magic, but it seems very painful. Damn, this bastard actually did this to my companion!

Tamaki picked up the giant axe on the asphalt ground, and nodded after looking at me, then she turned towards Arisu who is battling with the hellhounds.

Arisu used the attack range of the spear and stabbed repeatedly at the range where she will not be splashed with the fresh blood flames. The hellhound also seems to be unfamiliar with fighting with spears, and kept being unable to give the decisive blow.

Even so, the hellhound's movements is still very fast. Once Arisu relaxes, it will probably rush towards her. Arisu also understood this, so she used «Haste» to its limits, keeping her distance.

Even if the flame breath attacks, as long as there is this distance, perhaps she can avoid it. The distance between them is that special, perhaps it is only Arisu who is familiar with battle can do it.

Which is to say, Arisu is really good at fighting. Even if it is now, I am still thankful for it in my heart.

I only knew after I asked, that she was a girl who hates fighting in the past, hence her fighting talent also kept on sleeping within her, only awakening it yesterday.

This moment, Arisu is maintaining the danger distance and suppressing the hellhound. But this situation will probably be unable to be sustained for long.

「Tamaki!」

「Hmm! Arisu, switch!」

Tamaki raised her giant axe and rush towards the hellhound. Arisu left the frontline as though she is switching with her, and returned to my side where there is some distance from the battlefield.

The hellhound jumped back, avoiding Tamaki's chop.

「Ka..kazu-san you are burnt!」

「Ah, no need to mind it. Or rather.....『Resist All: Fire』.」

I also helped Arisu cast magic that resist fire. As a side note, Mia retreated to somewhere further away than me, looking at Shiki-san and the others who escaped into the forest.

Argh, are Shiki-san and the others who have the burdens fine? Just now the fire was also spewed towards the forest.

I surveyed the surrounding. Luckily the flames spewed by the hellhound lighted up some places which are quite far away from Shiki-san and the others. Then again, it burnt up the trees that are still growing, these flames are really something.

I had understood now, that the human campfire in the courtyard is probably also done by this fellow. That time, if I had not felt unease towards the sight of the campfire, and investigate carefully.....

No, now that it had come to this, discussing it will not help things. As compared to that, it is more important to win the battle in front of us. If we drag it too long, more orcs will come.

But before that.....

Hmm, wait a moment? I suddenly thought about something,

this bastard is always near the general orc?

Then that fellow..... That general orc who feels like a demon king——

「Ah shit.」

Mia looked up. Hearing Mia's words, I did not look up, but rush towards the forest, jumping to the naked ground from the asphalt ground. My legs tripped on a protruding rock, making me fall disgracefully. I kept on rolling, anyway it is just to pull some distance.

As I had expected, the asphalt ground that I was on, split into halves with a huge sound. Small rocks scattered, and some even hit my face.

I raised my head and looked, discovering a very burly black orc kneel on a knee. The super gigantic orc with a silver sword in its right hand, gradually stood up.

General Orc.

This fellow is the real boss of the orcs here. It looked at the surrounding arrogantly, then took a deep breath.....

Shit, it is coming. I immediately used the new support magic that I learnt.

「《Deflection Spell》」

Rank 5 Support Magic «Deflection Spell», is a magic that can be casted on a party member. The premise is that the target must be near the caster, and each time it can only affect one person. The effect is to widen the range of the magic that the target uses next time, for instance if it is a magic that can benefit one member, the beneficial target can widen it to every member in the party.

In this sort of situation, the necessary magic is.....

「Mia!」

Please, notice it!

Indeed, Mia who had pulled further away, used the silence sound to call out the magic's name.

「《Silent Field》」

The general orc opened its mouth, about to roar. As though it is trying to cover its voice ,the silent field widens.

Very good! Mia, thanks for noticing! Ah, I have always felt that you are a capable girl. I believe that if it's a hikikomori, she will definitely be able to understand what sort of action this

monster will take at such a time.

The silent magic had its effect, and sealed the general orc's roar.....

It should have been so, but——

The air is slightly vibrating.

I sunk into panic. How can this be, it should not be like this. The surroundings around everyone of us are covered in silence magic.....

But, the general orc's roar seems to be saying that it is useless, and scattered the magic. That roar covered everywhere, as though playing around with our eardrums.

This roar is strong to the extent that even our souls could be blown away.

Arisu and me who are nearby, are sent flying with the shockwave, and kept on rolling on the mud.

What is this? What is going on with this fellow?

Magic is not effective on it? No, is the magic being broken?

This is too ridiculous, too unreasonable.

I raised my head.

The general orc looked at me, and an eerie evil smile showed on his face.

Chapter 48 – Decisive Battle at the Middle School 1

I support my upper body up while maintaining a fallen position, looking at the general orc

The gigantic black-coloured orc, lifted the sword that was glowing with silver light easily, and stood sternly like a statue. It looked at me, as though praising its own victory.

Shit, this fellow is really bad news.

Yesterday during the evening when I was fighting with the elite orc, I was so scared until I decided to retreat immediately. But what I had felt now, completely surpassed that, a difference that was enough to make one despair.

Yesterday, Arisu and I were in a bad state. But thanks to my timely level up, then we could come up with a strategy. Luckily everything went well, hence we barely managed to attain victory.

This time, I just leveled up. Even if we defeat the hellhound, the next level should be quite far away.

No, this is determined by the experience given by the hellhound.

Perhaps Arisu can level up? Then Arisu's spear skill can rise to Rank 5. But the general orc in front of us is too scary, so scary until I feel that Rank 5 Spear Skill may not bring able any change in the battle situation.

With a roar that can even break «Silent Field», it is not a joke. This also means that the effect of magic is not an absolute, right?

Which is to say, it scattered the magic away?

If it is like this, then Mia's other magic——like «Heat Metal», will they be uneffective too?

That sword is still glowing with silver light, is it enchanted with some magic? Other is it something like a magic sword that is commonly seen in fantasy stories? The blade should be pretty sharp? Other is there some other effect?

Magic Sword. I had suddenly thought about it, a certain novel had mentioned something like being able to devour the opponent's soul, or destroy the world..... That, even if that sword is not of that level, it will also have some sort of effect.....?

Arisu and Tamaki have to fight with an opponent with that sort of weapon.....?

My important lover Arisu; Although Tamaki is not my lover, but she is also an important comrade of mine. Must I command them to move forward?

Now that it has come to this, I have began to regret attacking the main school building. I had knew that if we made a wrong move, it will become like this.

No, Shiki-san isn't wrong. She only gave the best method currently, and I also recognised that the gamble was necessary, but.....

I kept thinking, with an extremely fast speed on such useless things.

No, concentrate. Now what should I do? Anyway, we must take care of the situation currently.....

「《Smog》」

Mia used magic. Wind Magic Rank 1 《Smog》, is a magic that conjures smoke to block vision. The magic smoke quickly covered the surroundings, blocking everyone's view.

Yes, we cannot face both the hellhound and the general orc together, so there is only 1 thing that we can do.

Retreat!

「Shiki-san, we are going to run, use that!」

Will Shiki-san who has entered the forest hear my voice? No matter what, I stood up, and ran towards the forest haphazardly, Arisu and Mia also followed me.

Tamaki who is facing the hellhound, also gradually move towards the direction of the forest.

「We are going, Tamaki, put some distance!」

「Okay——」

Shiki-san who came out from the forest gave the signal, and Tamaki immediately retreat away from the hellhound. The black giant dog arched its body, intending to chase after Tamaki.....

Shiki-san opened the can and threw it out with its contents. The things inside the can splashed onto the hellhound's face.

The hellhound struggled in pain, giving howls in rage, shaking its head left and right vigorously.

That stench followed with the wind and drifted to our side. If I

must describe it, that smell is like the sour smell of a rotten egg. Anyway, it is just an extremely smelly stench.

「Fermented fresh fish is really smelly.....」

Shiki-san said like it didn't concern her. She had came out from the signal that we, who have been shocked due to the surprise, have given out.

「Come, walk this way. I have already called the other girls to head back to the Cultivating Centre first.」

「The girl that you are carrying?」

「That very fat girl? Sumire-chan right?」

Ah, you actually said it, I had tried to use some polite way of describing in my head.

Ah forget it, anything is fine, she will be able to get enough exercise like this.

「We will lure those guys to the traps region.」

「Un..understand.」

Then again, why are there such cans? Later I really want to ask Shiki-san. No, I have this feeling that I do not really want to

ask, after all it is about why she prepared a stinky can.....

Anyway, we—— the 4 people from the elite party, together with the familiars and Shiki-san, are running in the forest. For the sake of luring the enemies to the traps, we tried our best to pull the distance away from our enemies.

After all the hellhound will catch up immediately, so if we are too slow, then it will lose its meaning.

As expected, a howl came, and the forest behind us began to burn.

Isn't this fellow too reckless. Even if it is just guessing, but flames caused by magic should be hard to extinguish. The phenomenon created by magic seems to require magic to counteract it. But reversely, it must also extinguish after a certain time.

Even so, if the seeds of flames causes the flames to spread..... is it trying to induce a huge scale forest fire? This is destroying nature, beast.

No, it is useless talking to a dog about destroying nature. Then again, that dog's movements are strange. There are sounds of crashing coming from the back.

Ah—— could it be because its sense of smell is abnormal now?

This should be a good chance?

Even so, there is still another general orc behind. Even if we head back and fight, it will be hard to attain victory.

In this situation, it is indeed correct to lure the enemies to the area with traps.

As long as there are traps, there will be some way. Calm down, now is not the time to panick.

「Kazu-san」

Arisu while running beside me, used her hand to touch my shoulder.

「《Heal》」

Right, I was burned. After that, I remembered that I was blown away by the general orc's roar, then I was hitted in the head by the shattered asphalt pieces. I used my hand to touch my forehead, ah, I seemed to have been bleeding.

I had this feeling that this sort of injury, is no longer considered as an injury..... After my level surpassed 10, my body seemed to have become more firm.

Even if I had support magic to resist fire, after been swallowed

by that scary flame, I actually could say that there wasn't much damage..... I am really a monster.

Forget it, a monster is fine. No matter what sort of changes happens to my body, as long as I can survive, anything is fine. If Arisu and the others can be safe due to this, then that will be even better.

The area that was touched by Arisu, gradually warmed up, and the pain also slowly disappeared.

「Thank you, Arisu.」

「It is great that you are fine. When Kazu-san was covered by the flames spewed by the dog, I thought that my heart had stopped.」

「It is fine, but my heart also almost stopped beating physically. It is great that magic could protect us from a certain level of damage.」

If there is no support magic, will I die on the spot? No, I am currently level 11, which means I have something like a HP, perhaps I could endure it.....

But I do not have the wish to do some human experiment, and I do not wish to let others be killed from that sort of breath. If Arisu were to be surrounded by that flame, and exposed burnt

skins—— that sort of scene, I absolutely do not want to see that.

Hence I have to make my decision, to finish off that hellhound quickly. If possible, when it falls into the trap and unable to do anything, then Arisu will finish it off.....

「The general orc circled to the front.」

Shiki-san who is in front said so. Oi, why did you know that? I did not say my doubts out, but Shiki-san turn towards me slightly.

「As long as you focus and listen, you can identify from the sound. When Detection Skill is raised to Rank 2, the ability is also became stronger, just that you will need abit of skill.」

Wow~ Detection Skill is really good, although that『skill』part is making me abit uneasy. Don't tell me she did some strange practice inside the white room.....

「I can use my left and right ear to change the accuracy. Positions and adjusting the frequency of the sounds can be done with Rank 1, as long as you train diligently on it.」

Ah—— she is indeed doing something that normal people is unable to understand. Because of this, fanatics of MMO are..... Forget it, it's fine since that skill is quite useful now.

「We can only drop the general orc into the hole, then everyone will deal with the hellhound together.」

「That's right, then we will do it like this.」

Just in case, while running, I casted «Resist All: Fire» on Shiki-san and Mia. At this time, I wish to use «Deflection Spell» and divert the effect to the entire party. But I do not have that excess ability, hence this is something that can't be helped.

With this, even if everyone is hit by that flame, then they will still be safe..... No, will it be difficult for Shiki-san whose level is lower?

「After bringing us to the trap area, Shiki-san should keep away first.」

「I will. Forcing yourself forward even though you can't be of help, this act is nothing but that of a fool. Even if you die in battle, it can only be said that you asked for it. I have to use my life more efficiently.」

I really hope that you can say that you don't want to die honestly. You are not going to say it? You awkward girl.

「It is just in front, follow me.」

Shiki-san stopped, and then turned left into the animal trail. All of us followed behind her. After circling around the big tree trunk, our position is on the other side of the trap.

At this timing, the general orc just chopped down the tall wild grass, and dashed out. The distance between us is only a few dozen steps. Mia, Shiki-san and I retreated to the back, while Arisu and Tamaki readied their weapons.

The general orc revealed a smile, and attacked with the sword that was glowing with silverlight. It did not even care about Arisu and Tamaki who are already ready to intercept, and dashed over in a very carefree way.

Did it have absolute confidence in its ability? Or is it just a simple fool? Or both? Anyway, the general orc rushed over directly.

In the end, it fell into the trap immediately.

「Very good.」

Mia clenched her fist tightly

「It's a success, next is to defeat it, Arisu!」

「Mmm, Tamaki!」

Arisu naturally looked into the hole...

A bad feeling came over me.

「Arisu, stop!」

I used my magic in reflex.

「《Reflection》」

A rainbow coloured barrier appeared before Arisu, and reflected something. A heavy sound echoed out from the trap.

A spine-chilling roar echoed through the forest, the surrounding falling leaves danced around like a tornado. Arisu and Tamaki could not help but retreated a few steps.

The big-sized black orc jumped out from the hole. When I realised it jumped out, the general orc is already at the ground beside the hole.

It actually escaped the hole just by jumping, this scene left me in shock. Just in a instant, the invincible trap has been broken.

And..... what was reflected just now..... could it be— although I did not see anything, but if my gut feeling is correct, the thing that killed the crow during the investigation.....

Regarding the attack by the general orc, I have some sort of prediction, which is to say—— the general orc is now taking out something from a pouch on its waist with its left hand, and that action.....

The attack is coming.

Who will it be? No, no matter who the target is, who will be in the worst situation if they get targeted?

The answer is simple, among the members, the only one that had the danger of dying in a single blow is.....

I stood in front of Shiki-san as like I was protecting her.

「《Reflection》」

The answer is only half correct. Something flew out from the general orc's left hand, towards us.

Forget it, I better say it clearly, that thing is a small rock. The general orc used some unknown method and threw out the small rock at a high speed.

That small rock assault me who is protecting Shiki-san, then it will reflected by the rainbow-coloured barrier.

But there wasn't only 1 small rock, the general orc had threw 2 small rock continuously. And the second rock is aimed at Mia.

「Huh?」

Mia gave a shocked sound.

Then her body is blown away by the impact.

At the same time, the small rock that was reflected by me, hit the general orc's left hand, causing its thumb is bend in an awkward direction.....

This also represent that, that attack has that sort of power.

I was too careless. If the place that it was reflected to, wasn't right, other people may also die.

Then again——

Beside Mia, something thin flew in the air.

That was an arm.

Just a small rock, caused Mia's left arm to be torn apart and blew it away.

「Ah.....」

Mia fell to the ground with a consternation expression on her face.

Chapter 49 – Decisive Battle at the Middle School 2

The general orc is unable to throw small rocks to attack us because the thumb on its left hand is fractured.

But the price is——

We lost Mia's left hand.

No, actually it is not a permanent loss, after all we still have healing magic.

A normal «Heal» will not be able to rejoin broken limbs, but if we are using Rank 4 Healing Magic «Cure Deficit», then it may be possible to heal broken limbs.

But Arisu's healing magic is only Rank 3 currently, it seems like there is a need to raise it to Rank 4.....

Even though we can't use «Cure Deficit» right now, there is still another magic called in «Stasis» in Rank 1 Healing Magic, which can stop the time in an object. For instance if it is casted on food, it can prevent rotting.

As long as we cast this on Mia's hand, then we can stop it from being damaged, and preserve it until Arisu raised her Rank.

Compared to that, the problem now is, how should we salvage this situation.

Arisu and Tamaki are shaken badly, and the general orc is right in front, but they don't dare to attack.

«Haste» has already ended, although the other supporting magic are still effective, but even if the 2 of them work together, it will also be hard to go against the general orc.

Moreover, the hellhound is approaching.

This is like a dead end.

At this time, what should we do.....

「Kazu-san, you should head over to Mia.」

Shiki-san who is behind me spoke.

「If it is this side, I will do something to salvage it.」

Shiki-san said so and walked to me.

She used a sharp voice and instructed Arisu and Tamaki, and the 2 of them regain their senses due to it, barely managing to avoid the slash from the orc.

「Quick, now.」

「Ah, okay.」

I casted «Haste» that was amplified by «Deflection Spell» on everyone , Arisu and Tamaki's body is surround by red mist, and their movements speeded up because of that.

Even though it took a lot of MP, but we can't waste the time now.

Next, I went beside Mia who was blown away. She was pressing on her left shoulder that was covered in blood, rolling continuously on the ground.

I carried the petite girl.

「Mia, it's me, are you still conscious?」

「Mmm.....」

Mia looked at me with a pale face, her lips which has turned purple, kept trembling, and breathlessly mumbled out「Kazu-chi」.

「Ho..w is ev...ryone.....」

「They are all fighting, but it will still take awhile.」

「He..lp me.. Sup..port my body... I... will.. assist.....」

What foolish words are you saying—— that was what I thought.

But I recalled the reason why Shiki-san sent me to her side.

She probably wanted me to fire up Mia's spirit.

As long as I gave the order, Mia will do her best to fight.

Today, I recognised that we have built up a certain level of trust between us.

Shiki-san made use of this trust, wanting me to exhaust Mia, until she dies.

Ah, Shiki-san, you are really a remarkable schemer, good enough to cover what I was lacking.

Damn you.

Mia panted in pain and stood up under by support. Even though she is covered in blood, she still pressed her wound with her right hand, and head towards the battlefield.



Arisu and Tamaki are locked in a deathmatch with the general orc.

No matter it is the physical, strength or endurance, the gap between them and enemy is like the difference between a child and an adult. Every time the general orc swings the silver sword, the 2 of them will be blown into the air.

They landed heavily, but still they clenched their teeth and stood up, facing the general orc again.

This sort of fighting is too reckless.

But the 2 of them can only do it like this, this is only buying for time. The 2 of them are waiting, they are waiting for Mia's magic.

「《Heat Metal》」

Mia used her trembling voice to say out the words, and opened her palm facing the general orc.

The reddish black light shoot out from Mia's palm, and hits the general orc's sword.

The general orc gave a weak groan and stopped moving. Even though it is forcing it, it is not willing to let go of the sword that it is holding on to.....

「Now!」

Shiki-san shouted. Arisu and Tamaki did not miss the big chance, and attacked the general orc together.

In that instant, the general orc gave a roar.

That was a horrible shout that could freeze a person's heart.

The sound spreaded out like a shockwave, sending Arisu and Tamaki flying. Even Mia and I who were faraway, have to lower our bodies in order to endure the wind pressure.

The roar ended.

The general orc gripped the handle of the silver sword tightly again. The movement of gripping seems normal, making one question if this fellow is no longer feeling the heat.

No, actually it may not be feeling it. My instincts tells me that this is the same the time when «Silent Field» was broken.

The general orc's roar has the ability to destroy magic.

「What is with this fellow, how should we deal with this kind of opponent?」

「Shhh, Kazu-chi.」

Mia raised her head and looked at me, and whispered in a low tone in an denouncing manner.

「You cannot show your weakness.」

I was actually reprimanded by Mia who was heavily wounded, I could only feel ashamed for my carelessness. I glared at the general orc, thinking of what we can do.

The worst is, we can already see the shadows of the black giant hound behind the general orc. That hellhound is rushing over with an alarming speed.

Ah, damn, why at such a timing!

But, a spear suddenly thrusted out towards the side of the hellhound, a girl had dashed towards the hellhound recklessly.

Even though the thrust was repelled, but the hellhound's attention is diverted to the side. The black giant hound turned to the side and faced the girl who attacked it.

The one who went out recklessly to mess with the hellhound is the ace of the track club, Nagatsuki Sakura of Middle School Year 2.

「No, you can't handle that fellow!」

I shouted out loudly.

Sakura ignored my warning, and turned her back towards the giant hound as though luring it, and the hellhound pound towards her.....

Then seeing Sakura nimbly turning her body, and she jumped up.

She used her left hand to grab the branches of a nearby tree and used it to turn her body.

Her body was dancing in the sky.

Nagatsuki Sakura landed on a seemingly very sturdy branch.

What is with her? I remembered she is from the track club, but that action is like a gymnasium athlete.

She was so impressive that I was shocked.

Is this the power of the Physical Skill? Or is she already capable of this initially? When all of these ended, I really wanted to ask her this, but now we do not have that time.

「I am here, damn dog.」

Sakura challenged the hellhound.

The hellhound should not be able understand the human language, but it seems to have noticed the meaning from the actions, hence it breathed flames at the tree that Sakura was on in anger, the entire tree is covered in red flames.

But Sakura has already jumped to the tree beside. She kept scolding 「stupid」, 「slow」 while continuing to jump to the next tree.

The hellhound focused on chasing her.

She is good, her level is only 1, but yet she could fool around with the hellhound that even Tamaki had trouble with.

But just playing around is not enough, I kept thinking, wanting to think of a strategy to turn the tables.

「Kazu-chi」

Even though her body is still shaking, Mia still opened her mouth to say.

「Let me.」

「You said to let you, which is.....」

「Even if we die together, I must also defeat that hellhound.」

If we use her magic without reserve, perhaps we can win against the hellhound.

But her wounds are not healed, to do that with her current body.....

「My magic... is useless... against the general orc, so.....」

So even if she collapse now, it will not be a problem.

That is true.

Although it is true but she is still badly wounded.....

Mia leaned on me tightly, and looked at me with a serious plea. I looked into her eyes, and prepared my heart.

「Understood, don't you dare faint in the middle.」

「Mmm.」

She should have lost quite alot of blood, but her conscious is still so clear, it wouldn't be surprising to call it a miracle.

No, she is already level 9. From my logic, her HP should have

raised quite a bit. Even though she looks weak, actually she should be very strong.

It's fine, the Mia now should be able to do it. I kept repeating it in my heart, as though I was convincing myself.

「Sakura, listen to me!」

I shouted out loudly to Nagatsuki Sakura who was playing around with the hellhound.

I judged that that dog will not understand our language and told her the content of the plan directly.

「Understood.」

She gave me a short reply.

Okay—— I nodded.

Then I carried Mia in a princess carry and stood up.

From now on, it is our time.

Time to fight back.

Chapter 50 – Decisive Battle at the Middle School 3

Saying that it's a battle, but actually the things that we need to do is very simple.

「《Smart Operation》。」

I casted the support magic for raising the power of magic attack on Mia who is in my arms. Because Mia hardly attacks with magic, hence there isn't much chance for this magic to showcase itself.

But now it is different, her magic is the main force.

Mia quickly pointed out the index finger on her right hand and aimed it at the hellhound who is chasing after Nagatsuki Sakura.

「《Lightning》」

A ray of light linked Mia's index finger and the hellhound together.

I smelled the stench.

That was a lightning strike. The hellhound stopped moving for a moment, with its body paralysed. It seems that the electric magic attack by Mia, gave it great damage.

It's effective, then once more.

「《Lightning》」

Mia continued to use magic. The hellhound took it head on and gave a groan.

Enemies are not fools, once it realised that Sakura who was jumping around is only a bait, it turned towards us.

There is about 20 metres between us.

The hellhound kick off, and dashed towards us. It accelerated in a short time, and closed the distance in an instant.

「《High Jump》」

Mia casted magic on me. As 《High Jump》of Wind Magic Rank 2 says, it is a magic that increases jumping power. I got the power of the wind and jumped.

Mia and I were flying in the air.

Then we landed on the branch nearby, with a close brush with the hellhound.

「Grr.....o..」

Mia moaned in a low voice, the intense shaking had tortured her weakened body. The petite girl clenched her teeth to endure the pain.

I could only increase the strength of my arms that are carrying Mia, what I should do now is to depend on her.

Damn it—— I cursed at myself in my heart.

The hellhound stopped quickly, and glared hatefully at us who escaped above. I was initially afraid that it will jump or touch here, but it seems that I over worried.

Then that fellow stopped below us. Completely not moving.

「Mia, bind it.」

「Nn, 『Earth Bound』。」

Seeing the grass near the hellhound becoming like animals, binding its 4 limbs. The hellhound kept struggling, attempting to pull its legs out from the magical vines.

「『Stone Blast』」

Just at this timing, countless stones flew down from the sky. These stones rained on the hellhound's body, and every one of them is bigger than a fist.

The hard stones smashed on the hellhound's head and body, it could not escape, nor can it protect its weakness, and could

only be hit one-sidedly.

A stone hit the eyeball on its left side.

Blue blood sprayed out, and turned into flames before scattering, lighting up the grass around it.

The hellhound gave out a groan.

The beast glared at us and took a deep breath, the sac below its throat also swell up along with it.

Very good, it took the bait. I snickered to myself.

The hellhound's breath had me half scared to death initially, but it actually has a big weakness.

Before it could spew, it must do preparatory work. A deep breath, in order for the sac at the throat to swell, just that is already very obvious.

As long as we know its preparatory moves, then we can catch the timing.

My physical is not very good, but if it is only that, even I can make it, hence I can use that move accurately.

「《Reflection》」

A rainbow shield appeared below me, and the flames spewed by the hellhound was reflected back by the reflection magic that I casted.

The demon dog was covered in the red flames that it spewed, after all the fire belongs to it, so there shouldn't be any effect.....

But that time it is completely defenseless, so of course we will not let the chance go.

「《Lightning》」

Mia used electric magic to attack the hellhound. No matter whether it hits or not, she gave another shot.

The hellhound could not endure it after taking 2 hits and it jumped off from the spot.

Ah, the binds from the grass are gone. I see..... they were burnt off by the fire.

The hellhound is already full of wounds, with one eye destroyed, its body unstable, and all the black fur on its body are burnt, and its skin is even festering, giving off charred meat smell.

Ah—— even if it is its own flames, it will also get injured? So even if it can breath fire, it does not mean that its body is immune to fire? That was lucky.

The hellhound will probably be afraid of『Reflection』, so now it will be unable to use its breath attack.

Then what the enemy can do to us who are in the tree.....

As I had expected, the hellhound indeed gathered its strength, and used its body to ram the tree we were on.

A pity that its moves are completely seen through.

『Stone Blast』

Mia released numerous stones, and rained them viciously on the entire body of the hellhound. At the same time, the hellhound used its head to ram the tree we are on, causing the tree to shake vigorously, but I have already jumped.

The effective time of『High Jump』is increased by 1 minute for every Rank, with Mia's Rank, it should be 3 minutes which is enough.

I landed on the seemingly very sturdy branch on a nearby tree, and Mia gave out another groan in pain.

Each time I do an intensive movement, Mia's life is diminishing, but I killed my emotions and ordered Mia.

「Go.」

「Mmm, 『Lightning』.」

Mia cast who know how many lightning strikes at the hellhound, and this blow finally.....

The black giant hound lost strength in its 4 limbs.

The hellhound collapse on the spot and the monster's body disappeared quickly.

2 blue gems were left on the scene.

I see, there are actually 2 gems, is it because it is different from the orcs? Forget it, we can think about this later. Anyway——

「Well done.」

「Mmm.」

Then we are sent to the white room. Arisu leveled up.

◆ ◆ ◆

Once we reached the white room, Arisu rushed to our side.

She and Tamaki are covered in wounds, and their gym clothes which were enhanced with magic are all torn and tattered, and areas revealed are full of bruises or cuts.

Even so, Arisu did not care about her own injuries, only kept casting «Heal» at Mia in tears. She kept using «Heal», continuously casting it a lot of times.

「Sorry, Mia. You must be in pain. It has been tough for you.」

「Mmm, it's... fine.」

Mia smiled weakly, and raised her head and looked at me.

But in such a short time, her eyes became sunken, her cheeks are thinned, and her face is paled, like the many dead people that we saw today.

「It is worth it to be hugged so tightly by Kazu-chi.」

I bit my lips tightly.

I know Mia admires me. At least, she trusts in me who is the leader. Because of that, I must tell her that, must decide our direction after today.



「Wait a moment, Mia. I will raise my healing magic and use 『Cure Deficit』to fix your arm back.」

「No, Arisu.」

I announced and shook my head firmly.

I stared at Arisu who was in shock.

「Your skill point is now 6, I cannot allow you to raise healing magic, you must raise Spear Skill to Rank 5.」

「Why! Then, Mia's arm.....」

「Wait after the battle has ended, then we will retrieve the arm, then cast Rank 1 Healing until your next level up, then we will raise Healing Magic to Rank 4. Now we can't do it, right now what we need is your spear skill.」

I lowered my head and looked at Mia. Mia who is in my arms looked at me, and smiled warmly.

「Mm, Kazu-chi, well done.」

「Sorry, Mia.」

Mia shook her head.

「It is a calm and correct judgement.」

「I guess you know Kinnikuman Soldier lost very badly later.」
(TL note: Kinnikuman manga reference)

Mia and I looked into each other's eyes and forced our laughs.
We wish to make use of laughter to get rid of the unease.

「Why, Mia, how can this.....」

Arisu look at me and Mia in turns while bewildered.

「All of this is for the sake of victory.」

「For victory, this is a must.」

This is how Mia and I told Arisu.

We are both very clear about it.

If we followed our feelings here, then we are all finished——
that is how we judged it.

No, Arisu should also understand it logically, just that she
chose to follow her feelings.

In other words, she did not feel that she 『have to do this』, but
rather 『want to do this』, then she acts.

That is her weakness.

Sometimes, humans will display great powers because of emotions, but that is mostly situational, in a battlefield, being moved by feelings is mostly bad.

So I have to restrain Arisu's movements, and guide her properly.

「Arisu, we are doing this to ensure everyone survives, that is why we did it. If we don't win the battle in front of us, then Mia's life will be in danger. Compare to other things, we have to ensure defeating the general orc is our priority.」

「Bu..but.....」

「This is an order, Arisu, if you want to hate someone then hate me. For the sake for letting everyone survive, I can only choose the most suitable orders. Listen to me, okay?」

Arisu glared at me. She tightened her lips and looked at me, her clenched fists trembling.

Then she lowered her sight as though she gave up, and breathed out.

「I... know.」

She spoke in a whisper.

「But I have a request.」

「What?」

「Kazu-san, please hug Mia tightly now.」

What kind of request is that? I lowered my sight and looked at Mia.

Mia's complexion has improved greatly due to Arisu's «Heal», and now she is blushing while looking at me.

「To be able to stay in Kazu-chi's arms, I am very fortunate.」

「You.....」

「Since the main wife has given her permission, I am going to get cosy with you.」

Mia used her right arm to lock my neck, and after raising her body slightly, she kissed my cheek. The touch from her soft lips causing me to tremble uncontrollably.

I looked at Arisu and she gave an uneasy expression while looking me.

「Kazu-san, is Mia fine.....?」

Arisu seems to be very worried about Mia.

She seems to have completely ignored the matter of me and Mia flirting around, that really makes one feel abit lonely.

「Don't worry.」

Even though I am not sure whether Mia is fine, but I still nodded with confidence, and hugged Mia's soft body tightly.

Mia was squeezed until she gave a「nn」sound, it sound very constraining.

「Just that we are no longer able to use magic, so you and Tamaki have to handle the rest by yourselves.」

I took turns looking at Arisu and Tamaki. Tamaki looked back at me, seemingly very uneasy.

「Can we do it with just us?」

「I will also support you two. Just that I wish for Shiki-san and the other to escape further.」

「That's right, it is too dangerous after all.」

General orc is different from the enemies that we have met until now, although the difference in strength is one of the reason, but more importantly it is the roar attack that is troublesome.

In a game, that is an AOE attack.

If it's Arisu and Tamaki, then they should be able to barely withstand it..... But, that is because their level has surpassed level 10. If it was Shiki-san or Sakura whose level are low, if they suffered a close range attack, they may possibly die in a blow.

「Arisu, Tamaki, next we can only gamble.....」

「Leave it to us, Kazu-san, we will leave our lives in your hands.」

Tamaki slapped her chest with a pat, and revealed a fearless smile.

「This is nothing. Just one left, one left, let's quickly defeat it.」

After discussing the tactics, Arisu raised her spear skill to Rank 5. Then we left the white room.

Arisu: Level 11 Spear Skill 4 → 5 / Healing Magic 3 Skill Point
6 → 1

Chapter 51 – Decisive Battle at the Middle School 4

After returning to the original place, I grabbed Mia and jumped down, then I placed her on the ground that was filled with fallen leaves. I feel that it is tough for her to even keep her eyes open.

「Leave the rest to us, you can take a nap first.」

「Hmm, Kazu-chi.」

「Yes?」

「You must win.」

「Leave it to me.」

I gently caress Mia's hair while she smiled weakly.

「And one more thing.」

「What is it」

「Kiss me one more time.」

I meekly kissed Mia's cheeks. She smiled.

「Thanks.」

Finally she turned towards the general orc and Arisu and the others who are having an intense battle.....

Used her trembling right hand and pointed.

「《Smog》」

A emerging smog covered space surrounding the general orc.

Arisu and Tamaki retreated in the smog, and ran here.

At the same time, I had the 2 wolves enter the smog to buy sometime.

Mia finally used up all her strength, and silently closed her eyes. Her pale face seems very illusional, seemingly making others feel that she may have stopped breathing.

I will not let you suffer anymore pain—— I promise that in my heart.

At least I must confirm your safety.

「《Repel Sphere》」

Mia's body is covered by a rainbow coloured ball that a bubble.

Support Magic Rank 5 《Repel Sphere》, is a barrier that can

isolate something. This barrier seems soft, but it is said that even if a truck rams it, it will not have a single crack.

The barrier changed colour and blended into the surroundings.

Like a chameleon, the barrier became one with the surroundings. If you are slightly further, then probably you can't even tell that Mia is there.

The effect of this magic is different from the light show of «Invisibility», it is like protective coloring. Although you can see the colors if you observe closely, but it is better than nothing.

According to Q&A, you can see the outside clearly from the inside, as though it is just isolated by a glass. So it is like a magic mirror, this function is really convenient.

Just that this barrier has its weakness, it can isolate everything in matter—even sound.

Don't even mention impact, even sound will not be able to enter it.

Since it is a closed space, then what about the air inside? I targeted this to ask in the white room, and the computer answered that air will automatically form inside. When I saw

this, all I can say is hooray for magic.

The biggest problem is that the time for the barrier is set at 30 minutes, which is not too long nor is it too short. Even if you want to get out earlier, it can't be cancelled.

During the duration when the barrier is active, the wounds of the people inside will recover slowly, which is the few healing methods inside healing magic.

This magic has already invaded the territory of healing magic, no wonder the restriction is so strict.

But this weakness is not a problem in the current situation. Anyway as long as it can let Mia relax and keep her safe, then it is enough.

Mia slept in the safe barrier, I looked at her and stood up while satisfied.

Next is to defeat the general orc, and all of these will end, we will then be able to achieve complete victory in this battle at the main school building.

I raised my head.

At this timing, Arisu and Tamaki ran towards me.

Both of them are completely wounded everywhere, but thankfully they are not lethal injuries. In the route here, Arisu used «Heal» to do basic treatment for Tamaki and herself.

「The 2 of you really did your best.」

I casted «Haste» on Arisu and Tamaki. During the casting, I felt the link between me and my familiars broke.

The 2 gray wolves are dead.

Thank you—— I expressed my thanks in my heart.

The general orc rushed out from the smoke.

No problem, Mia's last magic has bought us enough time. Although it is only a few seconds, but it is very precious.

Now we should reorganise ourselves.

「Everything has developed according to strategy, let's go.」

「Yes!」

「Leave it to me, Kazu-san!」

I lightly patted their back.

Arisu and Tamaki who were surrounded by the red light of 『Haste』, rushed at the general orc.

This battle tactics maybe reckless, but I could not think of other methods to win. From our current strength, this is the few victory chances that we have discovered, we have to change this to become a fact.

Now that the general orc has injuries on its left hand, the long distance attack using the rocks are now sealed. Those rocks not only killed the familiar crow, but also took away Mia's left hand. Just by not being worried about this attack, will cause one to be more relaxed.

This is a rare chance, so we will not choose to run.

Because we have this will, that is why I left Mia here.

To defeat the general orc, we can only take the chance now—— I had everyone prepared their hearts.

Just based on the determination to not retreat, Arisu and Tamaki rushed towards the general orc in a go.

If my judgement is wrong, the both of them may die—— this weakness is slowly creeping into my heart.

It will be fine—— I shook my head.

Even so, I will not regret making this decision.

Since I have set my determination, then I wouldn't turn back.

Arisu gave a thrust from outside the general orc's attack range, and it repelled the attack with the silver sword. This sweep became a gust, assaulting Arisu and Tamaki.

Arisu's black hair and Tamaki's golden hair danced in the wind.

Just as their bodies are about to be blown away by the wind.....

「Tamaki, lower your waist!」

「Mmm, mmm! I understand!」

The 2 of them lower their center of gravity and tried to hang on desperately.

Just like how we discussed, then.....

「Now, Tamaki!」

「Mmm!」

Tamaki charged into the attack range of the general orc

without any regards to her body.

She swung down her giant axe while giving a big cry.

The general orc immediately used the silver sword to receive the giant axe.....

But this moment Tamaki threw down the axe and lowered her body, grabbing the fruit knife in the bosom.

This unexpected movement, stopped the general orc's movements for a moment.

Tamaki stabbed the fruit knife into the back of the general orc's right hand.

Blue blood sprayed out from the burly orc's right hand, and while the general orc struggled in pain, the silver sword in its hand also dropped.

Very good, it is effective!

Taking the chance when the general orc cannot move his left hand freely, and sealed his right hand as well.....

This is a reckless gamble that cannot be considered as a strategy, but we won the gamble.

「Now, Arisu!」

「Okay!」

Arisu immediately gave a stab and plunge the spear towards the general orc's body. Even if its the general orc, without weapons, he can't avoid this.

That was what I had thought.....

But before the axe that Tamaki threw, hits the ground, the general orc kicked up the handle, and used its injured left hand to hold the giant axe.

I could only give the sound「huh?」, Arisu and their feelings should be the same as mine, probably also wanted to shout「what is going on」.

The general orc used the edge of the giant axe to block Arisu's strike, the tip of the spear clashed with axe edge, and a high shriek rang throughout the surroundings.

Arisus gave a troubled sound, and her upper body also floated up.

If it is comparing strength, it is natural for the general orc to win. With just 1 left hand, and it was under the state of the thumb being injured, it was able to give a decisive strength to

its wrist to shatter Arisu's blow.

Seeing the general orc bending his back greatly..... No, that burly orc is using its lower body and took a strong step.

The general swung the giant axe with its left hand and the air gave out a groan, and violent wind assaulted Arisu and Tamaki.

「How.....Damn!」

Tamaki gave up the fruit knife and turned to pick up the silver sword on the ground.

She just held the silver sword and kept rolling on ground due to the strong wind. Damn, that wind was not caused by the silver sword, but from the general orc's natural ability.

Even so, we have destroyed its right hand.

And took away his main weapon.

Comparatively, Tamaki also has her weapon snatched away, but that is still beneficial to us, it should be slightly weakened. Next is to kill it even if it takes a lot of time.....

At this moment, the school side started to get noisy. Shiki-san came running panically, with Mia's left hand in her arms.

「The orcs are here, there are quite a few small fries, there are at least 1 elite orc. Sakura-chan said that she will restrain them, I tried to stop her, but.....」

I frowned. Stopping Nagatsuki Sakura's reckless move is correct, she did well during the face off against the hellhound, but if this continues then it will be messy.

I looked at Arisu and Tamaki who are still having an intense battle with the general orc.

At least they gave it a lot of injuries, even though it is not severe, but the 2 of them got the upper hand, and the general orc does not seem to be as strong as previously.

Especially when facing again Tamaki who is holding the silver sword, it had a tough battle. Looking at it carefully, every time Tamaki swung the silver sword, it seems like some lights are dancing in the surroundings.

What is that? Is it scattering some weird powder?

No, the feeling does not seem to be that. Seeing Tamaki's attacks are..... getting faster and also sharper.

「Kazu-san! I feel super good in my current state! I feel that I can continue to fight like this!

I guess that is something like 「a runner's high」, but, that can't be.....

「There are magic weapons in this world?」

Shiki-san looked at the intense battle that Arisu and the others are having with the orc, and said it softly.

I see, magic tools..... Since there are monster, skills and magic, then it isn't strange for weapons to have special effects just like RPG.

If it is that, then that weapon has the ability to heighten combat sense? Or is it the recovery of fatigue? Or is it some other effects.....

Anyway, we gotten something good. If it's that, perhaps we have a method of dealing with the general orc.

「Arisu, the enemy's reinforcements are about to arrive! You should go and deal with that side! Tamaki, You and I will lure the general orc! We are going to break away from the small fry!」

When hearing it, the 2 of them have a troubled expression.....

But they nodded immediately and began moving. If it become

a rumble then it will be bad—— regarding that, our thoughts are the same.

Since we have already proceed to this extent, then we can't let the general orc escape. Arisu and Shiki-san will head towards to the side where the enemy' reinforcements are coming from.

While Tamaki and I will pretend to run away, luring the general orc away from the reinforcements. Luckily the general orc did not seem to able to make tactics, so it was successfully lured away by us.

We splitted up, and began our last battle.

The sun is about to set.

Chapter 52 – Decisive Battle at the Middle School 5

Now it is evening.

Tamaki is moving through the forest that is dyed orange while having an intense face off with the general orc.

Tamaki held the silver sword with both hands while the general roc held the giant axe with its injured left hand, and crossed arms like this a few times.

Both parties seems to be similar in strength.

Every time they clash, they forced each other back, and sparks scattered around the battlefield.

This is possible, we can fight.

I clenched my fist, looking at their battle.

I had cast reinforcing support magic on Tamaki, even though «Haste» is used, then she could barely match up against the general orc.

And this happened just before «Haste» lost its effect, at that time Tamaki suddenly gave of an 「ah」 sound.

「Level up.....」

I understand her meaning immediately. Then we are sent to the white room.

Arisu and Mia were waiting for us in the white room.

Mia was temporarily released from «Repel Sphere». Although it's support magic, even such restraining magic will also lose its effect in the white room?

Mia fell onto the ground with a do, and her breathing was very rush, Arisu quickly casted «Heal».

Mia's complexion turned rosy in an instant

Perhaps it was due to «Repel Sphere» having some recovery effect, Mia's state seems to be better than when we just left.

「Arisu-chi, thanks.」

「Mia, thank goodness you are fine, I can finally relax.」

Okay, with this Mia's skill point should be 4.

Should she raise wind magic or keep it to raise earth magic?

No, before that, I had better confirm it.

「Arisu, how many orcs did you defeat?」

「Mmm, 2 elites, 2 normal. The sequence is normal, elite, elite, normal.」

Argh, she actually defeated 2 elite orcs in such a short time!

Re..really incredible.

Seeing me with a shocked expression, Arisu was panicking.

「They are not defeated by my own power only, Shiki-san and Sakura also helped..... It was Sakura who smartly attracted

the elite orcs' attentions so I can kill them easily.]

Wow, before that when facing the hellhound she was also like this, this girl Nagatsuki Sakura is only level 1 and she dared to lure the elite orcs, that is quite reckless of her.

Seems like she is hurrying to her death.

No, maybe because her hatred towards the orcs are so deep so she could only do so.

So scary, I felt that someday she might do some suicidal action. Hopefully Shiki-san could help her before she becomes like that.....

[But Sakura suffered serious injuries due to this, so I wish to heal her before finishing off the orcs..... Can I?]

[Ah, mmm, help her recover.]

In other words, she would not be able to come and assist Tamaki and me.

But no matter what, we are already quite far away from Arisu.

I remember the Q&A mentioned before, even if we formed a party, once the distance between each other gets too far, we will be unable to share the experience. I had also thought

before that this situation may perhaps fulfil the criteria.

We can no longer hope for the support of Arisu and the others.

Even so, the general orc now is about the same as Tamaki. Luckily Arisu defeated all of the reinforcement of the general orc.

I guess it is my responsibility to turn this situation into our victory.

I also roughly knew how much exp is the hellhound, it is about 12 orcs.

Then hellhound should be level 12.

If from simple calculation, then it is Demon Dog Rank 6..... Even so, there should be some skill point left over.

I don't feel that the hellhound is that good at close range combat.

Excluding flame breath, Arisu with Spear Skill Rank 4 is able to keep up with the hellhound. As for Tamaki who has Sword Skill Rank 5, she because of being afraid of the breath, and the situation is not stable, so I can't judge it.

Hmm—— perhaps there are many ways of calculating.

Perhaps I should not think that the enemies have a similar skill system as us.

Leaving this question aside, anyway we no longer have any other worries.

Next.....

「Leave it to me, Arisu! I will obtain victory.」

Tamaki raised her fist in spirit and turn towards me.

「Kazu-san, just watch me, this time I will make myself useful.」

Is that so..... Tamaki.

You still felt that if you are useless, you will be abandoned by me?

N, this is already a similar instinctive idea. I remembered the conversation I had with Shiki-san during the daytime when I was resting.

Shiba is the wound that is deeply carved into my heart.

For Shiki-san it is the fear of men.

Similarly, in Tamaki's heart, there is something inside.

Just like me and Shiki-san, Tamaki must face this. After that, for the sake of all of us surviving, she must also make peace with that.

As the responsibility of us being her comrade, we must at least help her through this.

「Don't worry, I won't abandon you.」

I said so, and lightly caressed Tamaki's golden hair.

Tamaki smiled, as though she was itchy.

After Mia said it, she run over, and stuck out her head with a「mm」.

「Oi.」

「I also worked very hard, give me some encouragement.」

「How many encouragement do you want.....」

Even though I said it, I still roughly caressed Mia's hair.

「I felt that my treatment is different from Tamaki's」

「That is your illusion.」

「So after using finish, then throw it away after it has no more value?」

「Don't said it until it is so nasty.」

I glanced at Arisu, seeing her standing slightly further away, looking at me with a lonely expression. I reached out to call Arisu over, and caressed her head after Mia.

Arisu closed her eyes, seemingly feeling very comfortable. In this time, my other hand has always been on Tamaki's head.

Now I have to concentrate on the mental condition of Tamaki.

I glanced at Mia, and she also nodded in agreement.

I always felt that Mia is the person who understood the situation the most. Mmm—— how should I say it, it just makes me feel relaxed. Indeed it is relaxing.

「Sorry, Kazu-san.」

Tamaki said in a soft voice.

「I am troubling Kazu-san.」

There is no such thing—— saying out such words are simple, but to her, this is not considered as a consolation.

I understood clearly, the me who have talked with Shiki-san about our pain, should also be able to understand her pain.

Even though this thought keeps running through my mind, I am still unable to say it to her.....

But, maybe I can show it with my behaviour.

而我可以為了她而出手幫忙。為達這個目的，目前最好的辦法便是信任她，將一切都交給她。所以，我們必須贏過眼前的戰鬥。

I could help her for her sake. For this aim, the best method is to trust her, and leave it all up to her.

「Y..yes, Kazu-san, now what skills should I used my skill points on——」

「Didn't we discuss it before?」

The skill points that Tamaki has yet to use is 4, if she used it on one skill, then she can raise a Rank 0 skill to Rank 2.

Even if she don't do it, I feel that just by raising Physical to 2, it can also make her battle with the general orc much safer.

But we have already discussed before, and would not do so. I believe in Tamaki's current strength, and Tamaki also believes in my ability.

「It is fine not raising any skills.」

So I announced again.

「If it is you, you can definitely win, so we will save the skill points first. You do not need to care about a mere general orc, and raise your Sword Skill to Rank 6 as priority.」

In actuality, the general orc is not that weak until we can describe it with 「mere」. Even now, fighting against it, is actually quite forced.

Even so, I desperately endured it.

For Tamaki.

For the sake of all our future.

We must win this battle with our current strength.

「Kazu-san.....」

「It's okay, I know you are strong.」

Hence, I nodded full of confidence. No matter how uneasy my inner heart is, I still smiled as though there is no such thing.

After that we discussed Mia's skills, and decided to let her prioritise raising Earth Magic to Rank 5.

After the combat with hellhound, we had once again realised the importance of long distance magic attacks.

Rank 5 Earth Magic «Rockfall», is a magic that can make a big rock drop from the sky, actually it can be considered as a strengthened version of Rank 4 Magic «Stone Blast». No matter how strong the hellhound is, as long as we squash it biologically, it will be fine.

「Raise Skill Rank, then attack based on logic.」

Mia who has only 1 hand left, give a smirked expression. Forget it, she is mostly correct, just that firepower is more important.

Then we made the promise of meeting again. We swore to definitely win this battle and gather back together.

「Just wait, Arisu, Mia, I will definitely return with Kazu-san.」

Tamaki regained her spirit and clenched her fist in front of her chest tightly with a「hmph」sound. The twin-tails, as though they are alive, kept shaking with her movements.

We left the white room, and returned to where the general orc

was waiting.

Tamaki: Level 10 Sword Skill 5 / Physical 1 Skill Point 4

Mia: Level 10 Earth Magic 4 / Wind Magic 3 Skill Point 4

◆◆◆

Then, we began the final battle that is horrifying enough to kill someone.

After we returned to the forest from the white room, Tamaki gave a sharp cry and swung the silver sword.

An intense blow, enough to force the general orc back. Very good..... now.

「Return, Tamaki.」

「Mmm, Kazu-san!」

Tamaki took the opening when the general orc retreated, and sped to my side while I began casting magic.

「《Extend Spell》」

Rank 5 Support Magic《Extend Spell》, can increase the effective time for the next magic casted. I touched Tamaki's shoulder.

「《Haste》」

Although 《Haste》has yet to lose its effect, I still replenish it fast. As the effective time is doubled, Tamaki maintain the intensive attacks. At least she wouldn't fail due to 《Haste》losing its effect.

The general orc got closer.

!

Tamaki gave a strong attack then moved around, searching for the best spot. Argh, oi ~ your position is not good!

「Tamaki, that side is the cliff!」

「Huh?」

Tamaki shouted in surprise. The next second, the general orc gave a strong blow. Argh, that kind of strength again?

At the edge of the cliff, Tamaki fumbled. Ah, really, why did her clumsiness happens at such a time!

I rushed to the battlefield.....

「Tamaki!」

I reached out to try and support her who lost her balance.

At this time, the general orc swung down the giant axe at me.

Hoho, I have already seen through this attack! If such a simple fellow rushes in, then I will not let the chance go!

So I cast this magic.

「《Reflection》」

In the end, my action became a bait to lure the enemy's attack. Even the timing of the attack, I also knew it clearly, hence it was easy to set a trap.

The barrier appeared before me and reflected the blow from the giant axe. The general orc stopped and its back bent even more than Tamaki.....

The position between us has swapped, the general orc rolled down the cliff just like that.

Thought I said it was a cliff, it is actually just a slightly steep slope only. If it worked hard, it should be able to climb up. Moreover it is that extremely stubborn general orc, it will not die. Hence —

「Tamaki, let's go.」

「Mmm!」

We jumped down the cliff without hesitation.

And滑下了斜坡。

我们将继续追击并攻击，结束这个将军级的魔戒。这里，没有丝毫的怀疑在我们的意图。

正如我所料，这个魔戒使用它的腿钩住了一棵树，在斜坡上停止了滑行。

Tamaki和我滑到了附近。

这个正在跪着的魔戒转过身来.....

它的表情扭曲着，因为惊讶。

「Kazu-san, 这非常危险.....」

「No, just maintain it like this.」

I held hands with Tamaki and rush down the slope. I stood at the front pulling her, giving her encouragement.

「Don't need to worry about me, you must finish it with a blow.」

「But——」

「Hurry.」

The general orc lifted the giant axe in an imperfect posture. Is it coming?

Even so, this time I can't see the accurate timing.

If we include the time when the general orc fell into the hole, I have already let it see 『Reflection』 twice, no matter what it will be vigilant towards it. And I do not have a pair of eyes that can see through an opponent's slash.

If this carries on, I will be chopped into 2.

Perhaps, even Tamaki who was behind me will be chopped into halves as well.

But that is if I do not do anything.

After I placed Tamaki behind, I entered the last safe zone nearest to the general orc and then.....

「『Repel Sphere』」

I casted a barrier on myself.

The surrounding sound disappeared.

The general orc swung the giant axe down diagonally.

From the trajectory of the axe, that blow is enough to cut Tamaki and me together, and we who were moving at that speed would not be able to avoid it.

But that perfect cut was repelled by the barrier.

The giant frame shook.

And its now, go!

My voice cannot be send out, and I am not sure if she saw my hand sign.

But Tamaki made a move.

She jumped out from my back and lunged towards the general orc.

She swung the silver sword over.

This blow cut off the enemy's head.

The head of the general orc separated from its body, and danced in the air.

Then that head kept rolling down the slope.

The body fall on the spot.

And gradually disappeared.

Leaving 4 blue gems.

Next, a sound rang in my mind.

I leveled up.

Chapter 53 – Tamaki, the Faithful Dog

Once we reach the white room, Tamaki hugged me. Her hands were locked around my neck and her body was stuck tightly on mine.

「I did it, I won! I won! Kazu-san, thank you! I did it right. I did not betray Kazu-san's expectations.」

「Mmm, mmm, well done, Tamaki has done it well.....」

If Arisu saw this—— once I thought of it, I survey the white room immediately.....

Arisu is not around, and I don't see Mia as well. Right—— I suddenly remembered one thing.

When the party members are too far away, then they will not be able to share the experience, this situation probably

satisfied that condition.

When Tamaki and I were battling with the general orc, we pulled quite far from the others.

「Huh, funny? Everyone is not around.」

Tamaki who just realised this, looked left and right and I explained it to her.

Tamaki opened her eyes wide and after her surprise, she gave a naughty smile.

「Then, I can now date with Kazu-san without any limits.」

「Oi.」

Tamaki hugged me tightly innocently. Your breasts are touching, they are touching. But they are not as big as Arisu's.

「Eh—— Kazu-san, can I whine to you?」

Tamaki's cheeks are grinding on me. It kind of feels like playing around with a cat, not like facing a lover. Actually, perhaps it is so. Tamaki wants the existence of a pillar of support, while I happened to play that role.

I remember what Arisu had said in the afternoon, Tamaki's

craziness and what happened later. Have Arisu even thought of the possibility of us being alone together?

In case, if Tamaki's mentality went out of control——

If something happens, please hug Tamaki, don't be concerned about me. No matter what you must live on together.

The meaning of Arisu's words, perhaps did they also have this meaning? Or is it that I am thinking too much?

Ah, forget it. The 2 of us sit side by side with our backs against the walls of the white room.

There is a period of time where we just chatted, and kept on it for very long.

I felt that there were endless topics like about Arisu, Tamaki and their classmates.

And the girl we just saved—— Sumire. Her full name is Suginomiya Sumire, with a gentle nature and likes reading.

「If she likes reading, then she should be good friends with Arisu？」



「Mmm, they often chat in the library. And Isa-chan and Tsukimi-chan.....」

Tamaki's expression turned dark and she stopped halfway.

「The 2 of them.....」

「Tsukimi-chan was at the girl's dormitory, Isa-chan was in the level 1 classroom just now.」

I see—— I nodded. Mentioning them in the conversation, does not mean that they are still alive. And if their friends are among the survivors, then Arisu and Tamaki will be more happy.

At the girls' dormitory, Arisu is only focused on helping the survivors, and no longer cared about those who died.

Among those, so there is a girl called Isa.

Arisu has healing magic, and she could use this power to save others. She must have firmed her will, and if she has the time to cry while looking at her friends' corpses, then she should have used that time to help the survivors.

That is a very sad will, and I have actually helped fueled it.

But I do not regret it.

Since Arisu is willing to support me, then I will also support her in return. No, not only Arisu, even if it's Tamaki or Mia, I will do the same.

We are one.

It is because we worked together, support each other, that's why we can defeat the general orc. So this is everyone's victory.

But it is enough for me to know this. Now, I hope that Tamaki can remain happy, confidence is what she need the most now.

I caressed Tamaki's golden hair and she smiled shyly.

「Even if it is only now, it is fine.」

Tamaki leaned her head on my shoulder.

「Just for now, let me lean for a while. When Arisu is around, it is okay for her to be prioritised. But once in awhile, share with me too.」

I continue to caress Tamaki's head.

Kazuhisa: Level 12 Support Magic 6 / Summon Magic 3 Skill Points 3

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We returned to the original place.

In the next 30min, I was stuck in the barrier of «Repel Sphere». We had discussed in the white room and decided that Tamaki should return first.

Tamaki quickly picked up the 4 gems that were about to fall down the cliff.

After that, she climbed the slope. After reaching the top, she looked in my direction.....

Then she tilted her head in confusion.

Ah, of course, when you are that faraway, you can't see me anymore.

The camouflage ability of the barrier is very strong. But Tamaki seemed to have remembered and waved her hand casually then dash off.

The figure of the golden haired girl disappeared from my sight. Really—— I leaned on the wall of the barrier, breathed out relaxly. I did want Tamaki to return after 30 min, but.....

Will she be able to return? After Tamaki is quite blur, will she get lost?

Forget it, even if we are faced with that situation, as long as I summon a few familiars, then I can guarantee my own safety, then just walk back. I relaxed my shoulders and continued waiting.

From the sunrise until now, I finally have the time to rest. Today I seemed to have been battling since morning. The truth is, I did have a short nap and also done many other stuff, but I felt that I have been consistently on the battlefield.

So tired, I am really tired from the bottom of my heart, if I don't concentrate, I will zone out.

My eyelids are about to shut.....

On the cliff that was dyed red by the night, a human shadow appeared.

I got a shock, because that was a guy.

That youth has slit-like eyes like a cat, a figure that was tall and yet humpbacked, his nose that was high, coupled with a evil-intent smile, that completes a completely unique look.

It's Saso Shiba.

I can't be wrong, that is the guy who once bullied me. Shiba surveyed the surroundings with a happy expression, and lightly shrugged his shoulders.

I know he hasn't realised my existence.

But my body keep sweating.

My teeth can't stop chattering, giving off an annoying sound, and my heart is beating like an alarm clock.

Ah, so I am actually so afraid of him? So I feared the person that I wanted to kill this much?

The scenes in the past flashed one by one before me.

During Judo class, Shiba suddenly attacked me, then pulled me to the ground, with his entire body pressing on me. I gave out a cry like a frog being squashed, everyone was laughing, even the PE teacher is also laughing.

When I want to retaliate, Shiba's loyal lackeys stepped on my hand. It is too ridiculous—— Shiba used that as an excuse, and continued bullying me.

When it was my turn to clean the classroom, both my hands and legs are tied behind, and I was on the ground like a

caterpillar. He wanted me to clean the classroom like that. I bit the cloth in my mouth and clean the floor and the walls. When my performance isn't good, he will kick and beat me up, and the surrounding students are all laughing. Shiki-san just took a glance and walked out of the classroom without any expression.

Shiba used the wet cloth to throw at me, and then everyone began to step on my body.

After school, I will be on my fours at the corridors, completely naked. Shiba will ride on me, and make me walk like a horse in front of all the students and teachers. When I stop, Shiba will hit my butt. He will pull my hair and laugh at me to cry out like a horse, and I will follow his instructions. The younger female teachers will only smile at my state. I will be wounded on my 4 limbs and even bleed. But yet he will get angry at me for dirtying the floor like that, and kick me with his feet, causing bruises all over my body.

The past experience kept on surging without an end. Even if I tried to stop thinking, it won't stop. I gave out a groan.

Is this a type of PTSD? I rolled in the sphere, while thinking about my condition.

Haha, what, I don't even have the right to laugh at Tamaki, and my wounds are not something serious.

Luckily I am within the «Repel Sphere». In Shiba's hands, he has the hunting rifle, and now I don't even have my summoned familiars, I can't fight against him.

That's right, I can't win, if it is just me, I can't win against him. So please, don't let him find me.

Then..... I stopped rolling.

Shiba suddenly turned around. What is going on? Is somebody there?

Another shadow appeared and stood beside Shiba.

That person seems to have not noticed me too.

But the instant I saw that person, my breathing stopped.

It's Arisu, the person standing beside Shiba is Shimozono Arisu.

Arisu looked at Shiba and seemed to have said something softly. The distance between the 2 of them is about 5 steps.

Arisu readied for battle for an instant then Shiba spoke to her.

Arisu put down her spear, and Shiba also put his hunting rifle

on the ground.

Arisu shook her head with a troubled expression, while Shiba got closer to Arisu slowly.

Arisu stood there in shock. Shiba, he..... ah, Shiba——

He hugged Arisu tightly.

Arisu relaxed her body, the 2 of them quietly maintained this posture for a while, having some secretive conversation.

The sun has already set, and I can't see their expression. No sound can enter «Repel Sphere», hence I also can't hear their voices. But they can communicate with each other.

Then Shiba raised Arisu's hand.

Arisu lowered her head like tamed and did not resist. Shiba picked up the hunting rifle and left, pulling Arisu's hand.

Their shadows disappeared in the other side of the forest.

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The surroundings are covered in darkness while I was stuck on the same spot.

Not even moving an inch.

Even if I want to move, I can't.

«Repel Sphere» is released.

My body rolled down the slope, and I was not obstructed by any branches, and kept on rolling.

My body is powerless and my brain is not working.

My body finally reached a flat area, and I fell into the grass patches.

I stood up. My mind is groggy like it was surrounded by fog and I can neither to think properly nor organise my emotions. I looked at my fingers on my left hand, and the red ring representing my party has already disappeared.

Now I do not have any companions, just alone.

So troublesome, what should I do, how should I do it?

Yes, protect myself.

I cast «Summon Gray Wolf» 4 times and the 4 gray wolves lined up before me. For support magic I should just cast «Keen Weapon», then add «Haste» if needed.

Then, argh..... where should I go? I looked at the cliff that I fell from.

So dark, I can't see properly, I don't even know where the Cultivating Centre is.

Argh, forget it.

Enough, I don't want to go back, and I don't want to consider any other thing.

I walked in the direction down the hill with an unsteady gait. The road is dark, and I tripped over a root, and fell. Ah, it cannot continue.

「《Night Sight》」

I cast night sight magic of Rank 5 support magic on myself, and my sight became as bright as the time during evening.

I walking through the grassland unsteadily, and discovered a group of orcs in midst. Seeing 3 orcs scattered around something like stone pillar, staring around absent-mindedly.

What is this? Ah, who cares.

Just kill.

I cast «Deflection Spell» on myself then used «Haste». Because the effect became «Haste» for everyone, all of the wolves and myself glow red. I had the wolves do sudden attacks on the orc group.

When the orcs noticed, my wolves have already suppressed them individually, and bit down on the aimed necks. Before long, the orcs died after they had their windpipes torn apart.

So, this stone pillar..... what is it?

Mmm, who cares. To the next place, the next place.

After walking a distance, the stone pillar appeared again. There are 3 orcs too, and I killed them too.

The next stone pillar had 4 orcs, one of them wasn't killed in time, and dashed at me, and swung its axe down.

「«Reflection»」

I lure it to the limits, then reflected its attack. Because I have been quietly observing the axe's movements, so I did it abit more leisurely. Mmm, actually if I was chopped, it is also fine.

That's right, it is fine even if I die. No matter if it is others, me or everything, anything is fine.

After the axe that was reflected due to «Reflection» cut the orc face, it fell and I leveled up. I was sent to the white room.

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I stood only in the white room dumbly.

I stood in front of the computer.

Next, what should I do? What can I do?

There are 5 points in my skill points, support magic or summon magic, which should I choose?

My mind is foggy, I wasted a few hours in front of the computer. Ah, so troublesome.

I made my choice.

Kazuhisa: Level 13 Support Magic 5 / Summon Magic 3 → 4 Skill Points 5 → 1

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I returned to the original place—— before the stone pillar. Ah then again, just now I did not pick up the gems.

I should pick them up now.

Mmm, better forget it, it is too troublesome.

「《Summon Soldier》」

Rank 4 Summon Magic《Summon Soldier》, allows a swordsman dressed in black armour to appear. This familiar has a knight feeling, and it seems strong.

I casted 《Keen Weapon》and《Physical Up》on the black knight.

I widened my strides. The black knight was obviously wearing very heavy armaments, but yet he could moving at my speed and almost did not give out any sound.

And I did not give it 《Physical Up》.

If that is so, if there is a need to escape then we can't escape.

Hmm, who cares, so annoying.

These stone pillars to be positioned radially around that entire mountain.

I continued forward in the grassland, then I continued to find stone pillars. There are always a few orcs at every stone pillar.

I killed everyone of them.

Occasionally the familiars will be retaliated, and hence my wolves disappeared.

Every time I met this situation, I will summon a black knight. Just how many orcs have I killed? And how many stone pillars have I passed? My mind is very confused, although I am very tired but I just can't stop moving.

When I rose to level 14, the familiars by my side became 2 black knights, 3 wolves.

When it is level 15, it is 3 black knights and 2 wolves.

Ah, with this I can raise my summon magic.

Let's raise summon magic. This is good, from now on, I will just raise summon magic.

Kazuhisa: Level 15 Support Magic 5 / Summon Magic 4 → 5 Skill Points 5 → 0

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When summon magic reach Rank 5, I got a magic called «Depotation». This is a return magic, it recovers 90% of the MP that the summoned familiar uses.

I used «Depotation» to return the 2 surviving wolves. Casting «Depotation» also needs MP, so in reality, each time I used it, I can only recover around 3 MP. Hmm, that is enough.

With this as an exchange, I called out a Rank 5 creature.

「«Summon Elemental: Wind»」

A half transparent naked girl appeared, she is the Wind Elemental. «Summon Elemental» is a magic that can summon out elementals of the 4 attributes.

After all calling out the Fire Elemental in the forest is quite dangerous.

Calling out the Water Elemental on ground is quite uneffective too.

Although Earth Elemental is not bad, if I want a reliable vanguard, I already have the black knights, they are really useful.

Hence, I called out the Wind Elemental.

Ah, but——

Seeing that big breasts on the naked girl.

I began to have a headache, this caused me to remember something irritating.

I used «Depotation» to remove the Wind Elemental.

To replace her, I called out the Earth Elemental. A giant made out of rock is born like this.

Mmm, this fellow should do it. This fellow is better.

I had the Earth Elemental walk in front, towards the next stone pillar.

Huh. why should I follow the stone pillars?

Argh, forget it.

My head feels painful, and my legs are not listening to me.

I nearly fell, and could only stabilize myself by forcing it.

Suddenly I raised my head, then I realised I am surrounded by enemies.

Ah, this is natural. No matter how stupid the orcs are, after repeating so many attacks, they will eventually discover it, moreover I did not hide the sounds of the battles.

And I wanted to fight back naturally, I ordered the familiars to kick away the surrounding enemies.

Not caring how much MP I had left, I called out another 2 Earth Elementals.

The black knights used their elegant sword skills to cut down the orcs, the Earth Elementals used their rough hands made of rocks to sweep the orcs away.

Then one of the black knight fell. Looking at it carefully, the elite orc is approaching me from there.

Shit.

Mmm, who cares.

Dying here is fine.

Kill me. Facing the elite orc that is shortening the distance, I raised my hand in a relaxed manner.

「Hello, thank you.」

I smiled, smiling at the giant axe that was swung down at me. I had a calm feeling, receiving the evil weapon that is about to split my head open.

But.....

「Kazu-san!」

It's Tamaki's voice. The high shriek of the iron clashing echoed in our ears and the giant axe of the elite orc is repelled up into the sky.

Tamaki brushed past me, with the silver sword in her right hand, and a torchlight on her left.

Tamaki used the torch to shine at the elite orc. The strong light shone on its face, causing some fear to appear on the bronze coloured orc.

Tamaki took the chance to shorten the distance between her and the elite orc, a trail of white light flashed before me.

The elite orc after it has its chest cut opened deeply, fell to the ground.

Then I was sent to the white room.

What is going on? I didn't hear the music from the level up. Ah the red ring returned to my left hand.

I see, hmm, Tamaki leveled up. I raised my head.

Chapter 54 – The Past, Now and Tamaki

In the white room, there is only Tamaki and me.

「Kazu-san! I finally found you!」

Tamaki who was breathing hurriedly lunged onto my chest, like a little puppy and rubbed her cheeks against mine. Why is she here? Why I.....

Ah, it's already fine.

Damn annoying. I pushed her away coldly.

「Kazu.....san?」

Tamaki stared at me with her eyes wide-opened. She seemed shocked, and was abit afraid.

She probed at me jittery.

「Kazu-san, what happened? Why didn't you wait for me? I searched for you for so long, and Arisu is gone too..... Ah yes, isn't Arisu with you?」

Arisu?

Ah, Arisu? Arisu, she.....

Those images assaulted me again.

Arisu who was hugged tightly by that guy.

Arisu who left with that guy.

I groaned and kneeled down, hugging my head and trembling.

Tamaki panickedly ran to my side.

「Kazu-san, oi, Kazu-san, what happened to you?」

Tamaki shook my shoulder. I raised my head, and saw her looking at me worriedly. Even though I gave her such an ugly sight, she is still worried about me.

「I.....」

Tamaki frowned, as though she had firmed her will.

「Although I don't know what happened, but Kazu-san, I know the pain that you are having now. I can understand.」

「What do you know about it!」

Something flew past in my mind.

My mind turned blank, and a painful and bitter black square

like object and an rush like a lava surrounded me.

When I came to, I have already pressed Tamaki onto the ground. I assaulted Tamaki in a rushed breath, but

But Tamaki did not resist.

She has Rank 1 Physical Skill, so as long as she has the will to resist, she should be able to push me away, but she did not do so.

She is obviously trembling, but yet she did not escape and her eyes kept looking straight at me.

「It is okay, Kazu-san, if someone like me can be of help to you
——」

As though she is trying to comfort me, she smiled gently, and bought her face closer.

Our lips overlapped.

It is different from the passionate Arisu, this kiss is about restrained, but Tamaki's struggle has be transmitted to me. Tamaki's warmth is surrounding me.

「Wh..... why..... do you..... know?」



「I know. Although I do not know the reason why Kazu-san is feeling so painful, but that pain, I am able to understand it. I also know, that we cannot let Kazu-san of now to be alone.」

So—— Tamaki followed up.

「This time it is my turn to help Kazu-san.」

Tamaki guided me with a smile.

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When it ended, Tamaki brought my face to her chest. She hugged me like this who is groaning and crying.

「Kazu-san, thanks to Kazu-san, I have been very fortunate the whole day. This is probably the happiest day of my entire life. So, this is just a bit of me repaying you.」

Tamaki said so and gently caressed my head.

「Ah, Kazu-san, tell me, what happened?」

I hesitated. After hearing my confession, what will she think? Knowing that pathetic me, she will.....

「It will be fine, I have already decided, no matter what happens, I will always stay on Kazu-san's side. Anything that Kazu-san feels troubled about, anything that Kazu-san hates, I

will accept it, I want to accept it.」

I timidly raised my head, while Tamaki smiled warmly at me.

「And think about it, Kazu-san. Me from this morning, is also quite pathetic.」

I could not help but give a bitter smile. That is true, she was not only so scared that she can't move, and she even peed in her pants, Tamaki from back then was really pathetic.

But that was because the situation was bad, and then her mental wounds reopened, it was the influence of a series of unfortunate events.....

It was different from me. The wounds that I hid, were far more embarrassing.

「Kazu-san, Arisu has asked me before.」

「Arisu.....?」

「Arisu said if she died, then Kazu-san will definitely be sad, perhaps even go crazy.」

Arisu she..... said something like that?

「What she asked me, was not after she died, but before she

died. She said if that really happened then it will be too late, for Kazu-san to not kill me, I must dedicate myself to Kazu-san.」

「Why?」

I really do not understand the meaning in her words, so I asked, but Tamaki had a face full of doubts.

「Because if Arisu betrayed you, then Kazu-san will definitely kill me as a hostage. So if Arisu died..... hmmmm.」

I replied with a「huh」, and Tamaki also tilted her head in confusion.

「Didn't we said this in the morning?」

「Wait a moment.」

The interaction this morning, is there such a thing?

..... seems like it.

No, even if there is, that is also only a joke.....

Wait what if Arisu took those words to be real? So that is why Arisu said that to Tamaki.....

Now as I think about it, the reason why Arisu requested me to

hug Tamaki.....

「Those harmless words from me, don't perhaps drove you girls up the wall?」

「Ah——maybe.」

Tamaki laughed.

「But hugging with Kazu-san like this, I surprisingly could accept it.」

「You..... that——」

「Ah, I also said it just now, I only wanted to be Arisu's substitute, I am satisfied with that. I will leave Kazu-san's heart to Arisu, I also hope that you will do so. So, Kazu-san——」

Tamaki said so, then she kept her smile and stared at me seriously.

「Tell me, I will accept everything. What happened? What is the pain that Kazu-san holds?」

I hesitated abit..... Then I began to describe the me from before yesterday.

I began with why I knew how to dig holes; the me in the high

school section, what am I; then about the person Shiba, what kind of thoughts that I have.

Other than that, I also told her what I saw just now. Shiba hugging Arisu and bringing her away. I talked about that memory that was like a nightmare.

Tamaki will occasionally reply with a few words but most of the time she is just quietly listening. When I finished everything, she brought my head to her chest.

My face is buried in the 2 peaks that are full of life. That place is very warm and I can even hear Tamaki's heartbeat. Feeling that warmth and movement, my mood gradually became calm.

When I began to have problems breathing, Tamaki let go of my head. She looked at my face and gave a sarcastic smile.

「Now, I really felt like killing everyone in the high school section.」

Her reaction is like Arisu, no wonder they are best buddies. I gave a bitter smile.

「Listen well, Kazu-san. Compared to everyone in the high school section, Kazu-san is more important to me, Arisu and Mia must have thought so too. Hence, I have a few things that I

want to talk to you about.]

「A few things?」

「Someone stole Mia's hand from Shiki-san, I don't know who the party is. The left hand that was stolen has magic casted on it..... It should be called «Stasis»right? After casting it, that hand is in Shiki-san's care..... Shiki-san did not tell me who stole it, but Sakura-chan seems to have heard gunshots.」

Gunshot sounds—— I suddenly realised it. When the familiar crow went to investigate, Shiba that guy has a hunting rifle. Was Shiki-san threatened by Shiba? And Mia's left hand was even stolen?

Argh, wait a moment. Shiba that guy took Mia's hand, what is his aim?

「Kazu-san, you knew that Arisu was adopted just like me.」

「Mmm.」

「I have heard before that the relative of the foster parents who took in Arisu, is the management's of this school, so that is why Arisu was sent here.」

「The relative is..... of the management's?」

「Then, Arisu's relative's son is also studying in this school..... Arisu has always been in the care of that person since a long time ago.」

「That guy's name is?」

Tamaki shook her head. Indeed, no matter how much they know each other, one will not probe until they even knew the name, I sighed.

「But, Shiba that fellow.....」

Will that guy treat someone kindly?

Hmm, probably will. After all that guy always treats the people he likes well, then completely rejects those he doesn't like.

That guy hates me, but those who are near him, mostly have accepted some grace from him.

For the sake of strengthening his authority, that guy has been recruiting companions.

So sly.

He tactfully increased his companions and strengthened the power on his hand.

Because of that, when everyone realised it, even the teachers cannot resist against him.

If that guy likes Arisu..... The 2 of them are relatives, and she is younger than him by a year. If he felt that Arisu may have a use in the next year and got along with her.....

I see, then to Arisu, perhaps Shiba has been a good relative. Arisu also heard about my past yesterday, and when I mentioned Shiba.....

Damn.

Tamaki suddenly gave a groan.

Looking at it carefully, I had grabbed Tamaki's arm tightly. And from who knows when, my nails has been digging into Tamaki's soft flesh. The skin on her shoulder are torn and even bleeding.

「So..sorry, Tamaki.」

「It is fine, this pain when compared to the pain in Kazu-san's heart, it is nothing.」

Tamaki said so and smiled bravely.

「After all when we leave here, the wounds will also heal.」

That..... Is right. But how should I say this..... I felt that I am too wretched. I grabbed my head, vexed.

「Hey, Kazu-san.」

Even after peeking into the dark parts in my heart, Tamaki still smiled happily. She hugged my tightly, and kept caressing my back, like saying 「it is fine」 to me, and said in a warm tone:

「Go and confirm Arisu's feelings. Because you are unsure, that is why you are lost. I will also go along. The feelings that Arisu had when she left with the person called Shiba, and what Arisu wanted to do, let's go and confirm that first, then think about it.」

「Tamaki..... you——」

「If Arisu's heart changed, then we will beat her up, and bring her back, if it is true love, then we must snatch it!」

Ah, I see.

Indeed..... That is absolutely correct. What am I lost about?

「Kazu-san, tell me. Do you still like Arisu?」

「Hmmm, I like her, I love her, she is the person I love the most.」

「That's great, if you did not say so, I will feel a bit hurt.」

Even when told that she is not the most important, Tamaki still had a smile, seemingly did not feel any pain.

Because my body is hugged by her tightly, so I can feel that her body has become stiffer. That is the pain felt by her heart. But I pretended to have not noticed it.

「Kazu-san, let's go to the high school section.」

Tamaki followed up.

「Let's sneak into the high school section now, and confirm what is the truth.」

After finishing, she showed me a brilliant smile.

Tamaki: Level 12 Sword Skill 6/Physical 1 Skill Point 2

「Yes, Tamaki, when did you raise your Sword Skill to Rank 6.....?」

「After separating with Kazu-san, I battled a bit and then I level up immediately. For the sake of coming here, I spent quite a bit of effort..」

I thanked Tamaki again, and caressed her golden hair gently, and she gave a warm smile.